

ILLUSTRATED TIMES

(THE RIGHT OF TRANSLATION AND REPRODUCING ILLUSTRATIONS IS RESERVED.)

No. LXIX.—VOL. III.

LONDON, SATURDAY, AUGUST 23, 1856.

PRICE TWOPENCE.
STAMPED, 3d.

THE MANCHESTER EXHIBITION.

THE Art Treasures Exhibition of 1857 is as yet a movement in an immature condition, but in the absence of political questions it invites attention, and, anyhow, it is better to be too early than too tardy in recognising its value. The idea may be viewed as a symptom of the tendencies of the age, and as likely to produce results of importance in future days.

It seems pretty well agreed that we are behind the whole world in our appreciation of the beautiful. The amount of ugly objects in England is something wonderful. There are half the public build-

ings, and all the statues, to begin with. Leave the streets, and enter the houses, and you find that the portraits are daubs, the furniture clumsy, and the crockery hideous. Among the mob, the only approach to art is in a Guy Faux or a Jack-in-the-Green; and if there is anything a shade better, it is for sale by an Italian. In high quarters the case is different; but there almost everything that is beautiful is foreign—from the pictures to the coffee-cups. We are only beginning to have a school of art and art-criticism; and this is all the stranger, because for centuries our whole education has been based on the classics—the products of a life eminently coloured by

an intense feeling for art of every kind. Indeed, it has been excellently shown by Cardinal Wiseman, that the objects which we preserve as antiques in our drawing-rooms, were the everyday utensils of existence among the ancients. Their useful and beautiful, in fact, were not separated, in either theory or practice; nor is there any reason, abstractedly, why they should be. Quintilian very well points out, in treating of the ornamental part of oratory, the truth of this. In a horse, or in a ship, you cannot separate the qualities which make it handsome from those which make it strong or swift, and nature has lavished elegance of form over the commonest objects.



OLD ENGLISH CUSTOMS, NO. III.—LOVE TOKEN.—(DRAWN BY KENNY MEADOWS.)

When we deny or forget these facts, we are really seeking excuses for our want of taste; we are bringing bad reasons to support bad sentiment. It is rather comic to see how people contradict themselves on such points. They comfort themselves with "hand-some is that which does," &c.; but the housewife who quotes the venerable saw is as glad as her neighbours to have her daughters pretty, and not more likely than her neighbours to get them married, if they are not.

How we come to be an ugly people—not, of course, in our persons, but in our tastes—would be a curious inquiry. "Blood," no doubt goes for something in it; and do what we will, we shall probably never have our people so universally sensible of artistic impressions as those of the South. Our being a "free" people ought to be in our favour in the matter; but our taste for art has been somewhat checked by our Calvinism, and somewhat kept down by our commercial character. At this day, it is the High Church party which most encourages art—viz., the party which has the least hold on the common mass; for the theology of the mass, taking more heed of the spiritual experiences of the individual than of authority or tradition, is less likely to unite itself with culture of any kind. The Scotch, the Dissenters, and those who are like them, are opposed to all music and art in connection with their religion; whereas, it was in connection with religion that the best art of Europe began. Everything of the kind has been stamped in the minds of thousands as dubious or profane—an influence still powerful. Again, our devotion to trade has kept it back. There can be no cultivation without leisure, and the leisure of the mass of Englishmen has usually been bestowed on politics. Until quite recently, art was entirely confined to the very highest classes, as travelling used to be; but with them there was no excuse for neglecting it. Commerce has never been so honourable as land, and land with us is the foundation of aristocracy. So it has come about, as was quite natural, that the country is rich in objects of art, the property of the few, and that these works, and the ideas belonging to them, are little known to the many. Now, this is just a combination which the Manchester idea is calculated to meet, and hence its great practicality and propriety. Virtually, the Exhibition will be a contribution of the aristocracy to the enjoyment and improvement of the people; and that that should come off at Manchester, is, on the whole, a good sign of the times.

We apprehend that there will be little difficulty made by those who have the good fortune to be the hereditary proprietors of fine galleries. Prince Albert sets the example, and gives his assistance; and he must be a gruff fellow indeed who refuses to please the nation, when he is also, by so doing, pleasing the Court. To be sure, you may have, here and there, a growl about Germanism and despotic influences—British liberty being by some supposed to be in danger when British ignorance is assailed; but the truth is, that we should take the Prince's courtesies as all civilised people take courtesies—in a congenial frame of mind. There is no question here of our institutions at all, but simply our improving ourselves in one point in which we are notoriously deficient. And because the people on the Continent like pictures too, we need not fear that there is any inevitable association between *comp d'états* and Correggios. Let us thank God that we are free to act, and as we improve ourselves, we shall act better. No doubt the Exhibition will—besides increasing the general taste for art—help to strengthen people's interest in kindred subjects. With a sense of its beauty will come a longing for poetry, letters, and history. *Après* of the last of these, we hope that portraits of English worthies will form a conspicuous and important feature in the Exhibition.

The effect of the Exhibition will chiefly be on the middle classes, where its effect is most needed; but what elevates the middle classes likewise, through them, does good to the lower. A man will act better in all his capacities (of employer, neighbour, citizen, &c.) for having his ideas enlarged and his taste improved. Not that we are to expect from the fine arts that they will supersede, or make up for the want of, higher influences. Noble and manly lives have been, and will always be, led by people far away from them; and, for our own parts, we prefer a sermon by Latimer to a picture by Holbein. But it is just because individual action is not so powerful now, that we ought to seek everywhere for a substitute. It is just because life is artificial and mechanical, that art becomes necessary to keep awake in people a sense of a higher beauty than the routine of daily existence affords. Let those who remind us what it cannot do, show some activity in providing the world with something better. But the truth is, that we now-a-days have reactionary talk against both literature and art, because they have got so subtly and completely into our life, that (as with the air) we hardly know their value. As to art also, its influence is so especially subtle, that people do not see it at all, and are apt to forget that it is one of the things which make civilisation differ from barbarism. Tomkins believes in nothing that he cannot see or handle, but there are plenty of quite impalpable powers at work unknown to him, which constitute a good half of the distinction between him and a Hottentot.

With the details of this great project we need not meddle at present; what is required now is that the general plan shall be as widely known as possible, and well ventilated through the length and breadth of the kingdom. The "art treasures" of the country are not confined to those great houses, which, like Warwick Castle, Hatfield or Burleigh, enjoy public celebrity; many are to be found in the possession of families of the nobility and gentry whose names the public scarcely know, and whose wealth does not challenge general observation. The readiness with which such people may communicate them will depend on the excellence of the organisation for their care and protection. But in matters of business, no doubt, we may trust a Manchester committee; and we hope that a valuable notion will not be spoiled by carelessness in details.

LOVE TOKENS.

We very much doubt if any man who is capable of writing a dictionary could give a proper definition of love: it is not in his nature. We have looked into five or six volumes by eminent lexicographers, and it is with sorrow that we are forced to state, that from their explanations, they appear to have known nothing about the delightful sensation; a fact the more to be regretted, because four of them were married men. Can you imagine a writer of dictionaries making love? Of course not—no more than you can picture up a lawyer writing poetry, or an undertaker feeding a baby, or a butcher keeping a pet lamb from disinterested motives.

Let us, for the fun of the thing, suppose the great Dr. Johnson paying his addresses to a young lady. All the time he would be studying himself more than her, endeavouring to find out what his feelings were like, and bothering his head as to how he should express them in neat and concise terms, so as to fabricate a new definition in the next edition of his dictionary. According to the good Doctor (we refer more particularly to the shilling edition of his immortal work), *Love* is a passion, friendship, kindness, or silk stuff. He might just as well have added, a ventriloquist, an apple, or a drink. We should like to see the curious textile fabric he refers to. We have frequently heard of a love of a dress, but never of a dress of love; we have also often known plenty of stuff to be passed off as love, but although it was of a silky nature, still it was not silk. We are at the present moment acquainted with a gentleman who is courting his fourth

wife, and as silk dresses enter largely into his ideas of paying his addresses, perhaps his notions about love coincide with Dr. Johnson's definition.

The Rev. James Barklay, who, thirty years ago, published an excellent dictionary (with a frontispiece of Britannia listening with apparently great delight to the book being read aloud to her by Science), states that *love* is the ardent desire or passion which is excited at the sight of any object that appears amiable. We beg to differ from the Reverend Gentleman, for a friend of ours fell in love with, and was ultimately united to, a young lady, who was, and still is, as unamiable as possible. During his courtship, she invariably snubbed him; indeed, was always saying harsh and unpleasant things. As the donkey loves thistles, so did he this unpleasant lady, for some mysterious and unknown reason. Since their marriage, he has suffered a martyrdom, which began with a struggle for a latchkey, and has ever since been kept up by housekeeping expenses.

Shakspeare, who appears to have known everything from spelling up to metaphysics and moral philosophy, was intimately acquainted with the emotion of love. In the "Two Gentlemen of Verona," he makes Speed give the following diagnosis of the malady:—

"VALENTINE.—Why, how know you that I am in love?"

"SPEED.—Marry, by these special marks: First, you have learned, like Sir Proteus, to wreath your arms like a malcontent; to relish a love song like a Robin-rebreast; to walk alone like one that had the pestilence; to sigh like a school-boy that had lost his A B C; to weep like a young wench that had buried her grandam; to fast like one that takes diet; to watch like one that fears robbing; to speak pining like a beggar at Hallow-mass. You were wont, when you laughed, to crow like a cock; when you walked to walk like one of the lions; when you fasted, it was presently after dinner; when you looked sadly, it was for want of money; and now you are metamorphosed with a mistress, that, when I look on you, I can hardly think you are my master."

Which means, that lovers are thoughtful, silent, and sentimental; that they prefer solitude and lose their appetites. But these symptoms only declare themselves in very desperate cases, such as when the young lady is possessed of great wealth, and the young gentleman is objected to, because he has not a farthing and is out of employment; or where the damsel is wonderfully beautiful and the youth is spurned because he has had the small-pox twice, and each time been severely marked.

Samuel Daniel, a poet, who wrote in the year 1590, has bequeathed to the world a song about Love, which is useful as a proof that our forefathers knew nothing about it:—

"Love is a sickness full of woes

All remedies refusing—

A plant that most with cutting grows,

Most barren with best using!

Why so?

More we enjoy it, more it dies—

If not enjoyed, it sighing cries

Heigh ho!

Love is a torment of the mind,

A tempest everlasting!

And Jove hath made it of a kind,

Not well, nor full, nor lasting—

Why so?

More we enjoy it—more it dies,

If not enjoyed it sighing cries

Heigh ho!

We infinitely prefer the theory of love contained in all fairy tales, where, when a fond pair are united, instead of their love decreasing and dying, they "live happily all the days of their life."

It is rather distressing that we have not been able to give a precise definition of love, because, as it necessarily forms the principal portion of the subject of this article, it would have enabled us to treat the ceremony of presenting its tokens with greater vigour and certainty.

Woman's mission on earth is of course to inspire love, with the ultimate object of getting married. That there are great difficulties to be overcome before this end can be attained, is proved by the lamentable number of spinsters who figure in the census returns. In vain do milliners bring over the latest Parisian fashions—in vain are extra breadths added to the already luxuriant skirt—in vain is the hair worn in a thousand different styles; for neither curiously-cut bodices, nor a figure like a diving-bell, nor hair brushed off the forehead, produce the desired result. This may, in a great measure, be traced to our having allowed some of our ancient customs to die out. That of giving Love Tokens on the 20th August, was a very wise and far-seeing plan for settling young ladies in life, and would, we are certain, if revived, enable a mamma, with a large family of girls, to get rid of them as quickly as pine-apples at a penny a slice.

It was the custom in England, a long time ago, for "enamoured maydes and gentiwomen," to give to their favourite swains, as tokens of their love, little handkerchiefs, about three or four inches square, wrought round about, often in embroidery, with a button or tassel at each corner, and a small one in the centre. The finest of these favours were edged with narrow gold lace or twist; and then, being folded up in four cross folds, so that the middle might be seen, they were worn by the accepted lovers in their hats, or on the breast. These favours became at last so much in vogue, that they were sold ready made in the shops, in Queen Elizabeth's time, from sixpence to sixteenpence a piece.

In the first place, this custom was extremely judicious, because, although the declaration of love ought, according to the opinion of the world, to come first from the gentleman, still a graceful hint, such as that of giving a love token, has the effect of saving much valuable time by telling the swain in an indirect manner, that his advances would be favourably received, and that he need not despair of being successful in his suit. Besides, it is a confession that the lady admires him, and we always feel an affection for those who think well of us. The reason why widows so often marry again, is because in the greater number of instances they conduct the courtship. What chance of escape has a man when a "gentilwoman" with even a moderate amount of charms attacks him with half-implied avowals of affection? Fancy a youth placed in the same position as the one in Mr. Meadows's picture, with a young lady, owning a pair of eyes like those the artist has represented, looking up in his face whilst she pins on his bosom a high-priced sixteen-penny love token! Do you think he could long restrain his feelings? No! he would hesitatingly inquire on which days she went out walking alone; and meeting her in some quiet lane, he would, in a voice very much out of breath, tremblingly call her by her Christian name, and having nervously stated the amount of his income, inquire whether she thought it was sufficient to be shared by two. Has any gentleman among our readers ever had the bow of his neck-kerchief kindly arranged for him by a pair of soft white hands? What have been his sensations? Has he not turned hot and cold by turns? Has he not felt suddenly giddy, and seen wedding rings floating before his eyes? These are not theories, but facts that any philosopher will certify and explain. They are caused by a sudden tightening of the blood vessels of the heart, brought on by a difficulty of drawing the breath, the result of some violent emotion.

In the second place, this custom was a judicious one, because these tokens were worn by the gentlemen openly in the streets, in their hats, or on their breasts. Now, when once he has done this, the youth has no chance of escape. The big brother, the strong father, or bold uncle, has a right to interfere as soon as he observes a tendency on the part of the swain to decamp and break off the courtship. "Sir," he might say, "you have in the broad light of day, paraded before the world the love token given you by my sister (daughter, or niece, as the case may be); you have everywhere declared that you were her accepted lover, and now you would meanly break off the match," and with the shaking of a horsewhip, or a hint at pistols, the truant swain would be forced to return to the deserted fair one. Now-a-days, if no letters—written in the red-hot style so necessary in cases of breach of promise—have passed between the loving pair, relations can obtain no sufficient testimony of the blackness of the swain's conduct, that will justify them for using threats and thick sticks.

There was one portion of this custom of giving love tokens which we consider to have been completely unnecessary, to use no harsher term. It appears that tokens were also given by the gentlemen to their fair mistresses, but instead of the before-mentioned sixteen-penny handkerchiefs, they usually consisted of golden ear-rings, cleverly wrought into fantastic and graceful forms, and also of bracelets ornamented with precious stones, such as diamonds of large size and value, rubies, emeralds, and

pearls, of good colour and high price. In the engraving, we perceive in the background a handsome-looking young fellow fastening a bracelet to the wrist of a modest maiden. He has a reckless, spendthrift look, and wears clothes evidently made of costly material, and cut by a first-rate tailor, who doubtless has foolishly supplied them on credit. In those days, the blessings of Birmingham jewellery were not known, neither had science unveiled the wonders of electro-plating. But bills and bill discounts were plentiful, and "three months after date" was a familiar writing-lesson. That silly boy has evidently been sending his "paper" into the market, and perhaps taking out half the amount in carved ivory frigates, or Turkish slippers.

These costly presents are wrong, because when youths are in love they lose a great portion of their intellects, and we all know that fools have no power of keeping their money. We knew a man whose brain was affected by love, and he, during his courtship, presented the lady of his choice with so much jewellery that he was nearly ruined, and she very properly discarded him for his extravagance; saying, that though she would keep the presents as mementos of the happy days they had passed, yet his recklessness was such that she felt they could never be happy together, and it was better for them to part.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

THE Emperor and Empress have gone to Biarritz. Marshal Pelissier is now Duke of Malakoff, with a pension of 100,000 francs per annum.

The annual Napoleon *fête* (on Friday week) passed off in Paris without much excitement, and with less than the usual *éclat*. So many grand *fêtes* have lately been given, that both the Government and the people seemed to think that any considerable expense of money or enthusiasm would be thrown away. The weather was very fine, and not so hot as was expected. The crowds in the Champs Elysées were nothing like so great as usual. The "Te Deum" at Notre Dame had altogether a military character. A number of young-looking generals and superior officers, wearing the Crimean medal, crowded the nave. The new Duke of Malakoff was looked for in all directions, but he was with the Emperor at St. Cloud. The great balloon, which was to have been the principal feature of the *fête*, did not go up, owing to an unlucky accident, which is to be the subject of a Government inquiry. The Emperor and Empress, who came unexpectedly to the esplanade of the Invalides to see the ascent, were among the disappointed.

It was reported that, on the 24th, the Count de Paris would publish a political manifesto, on the occasion of his arriving at the age of royal majorities. It is generally believed that the manifesto will be written by M. Thiers.

The Emperor has conferred the military medal on Sir William Codrington and General della Marmora.

SPAIN.

DESPATCHES from Spain do not throw any light on the future. The Cabinet of O'Donnell has assured the representatives of England and France that the form of government will be constitutional. The Queen's advisers want to incorporate the Liberals of rank. Meanwhile the Carlists are forming their plans, whilst the national constitutional party declares that any material change in the form of government will find them in arms, and supported by a majority of the army.

The "Epoca" says that the Government has received information that Don Juan (brother to the Count de Montemolino) is secreted at Bordeaux, and that when, a few days ago, there was reason to believe that he was approaching the frontier, the French authorities caused a search to be made after him in Bayonne, and in some of the neighbouring villages; also that it had ordered a strict watch to be established on the frontier.

All the chiefs of regiments who remained in Saragossa during the insurrection have been placed on the retired list.

All the National Guard is to be disbanded, but the question of the definitive dissolution of it is to be left to the Cortes.

In spite of all the efforts of the Government, bread, meat, and other articles of first necessity increase in price in a remarkable manner; and much discontent prevails in consequence.

The junta commissioned to manage the conscription for the army, finds it impossible to obtain the requisite number of recruits; and the contractor has given notice that he is unable to complete his engagements for that business, and prefers to forfeit the amount of his bond.

The Alcade Molinos, who was kept in close confinement in the citadel, has been transported to the Canary Isles.

PORTUGAL.

AN attempt at disturbance has taken place in Lisbon in consequence of the dearness of provisions. A considerable body of the working classes assembled on the evening of the 8th in one of the squares, and, being excited by some addresses from ill-disposed persons, were about to break into the bakers' shops, when General Count de Francos, commander of the municipal guard, dissuaded them from their design. They, however, proceeded, with cries of "Long live Don Pedro V.!" "Down with corn speculators!" to the residence of M. Almerida, one of the contractors for the tobacco monopoly, and broke all his windows. Similar excesses took place in other parts of the city, but after midnight the rioters retired. The next evening groups were again formed, and several baking establishments broken into and rifled. They also again attacked M. d'Almerida's house with crowbars and pickaxes, and carried off what they could lay their hands on. They then set fire to the house; but a detachment of lancers succeeded in extinguishing the flames, and dispersed the crowd, making some arrests. The agitation continued the next day, and on the 11th the King returned from Cintra. His first step was to dismiss the commander of the municipal guard for his want of resolution and energy. Crowds of rioters were all day going through the streets forcing the bakers to sell their bread at half price; but in the evening, the military having occupied the principal points of the capital, the crowd dispersed.

ITALY.

LETTERS from Naples and elsewhere represent that great agitation prevails in the Neapolitan army, and that in case of a crisis King Ferdinand could only rely upon his Swiss troops, which number about 10,000, while the national regiments amount to nearly 80,000. This correspondence gives it as a certain fact, that a regiment of grenadiers was on the point of rising in rebellion, and that it was sent away from Naples. Serious acts of insubordination in a battalion of another regiment are also spoken of. This disposition to mutiny is attributed to jealousy of the extraordinary favour shown to the Swiss guards, and also to the severity of punishments inflicted for trivial offences.

Lord Normanby has arrived at Piacenza, on a second visit to the Duchess-Regent of Parma, which occasions many conjectures as to what is going on. A complete battery of Austrian artillery, escorted by Jagers, has just been sent from Bologna to Piacenza, and scarcely a day passes without the arrival of some reinforcements of Hungarian cavalry.

A letter from Parma of the 13th says, that the Parmesans who are kept prisoners by the Austrian authorities at Mantua are subjected to great ill-treatment; in consequence one of them has died, another has gone mad, and a third has become blind.

A report is current that the Archduke Maximilian, brother to the Emperor Francis Joseph, is to be appointed viceroy over Austria's Italian possessions, and that it is more than probable that Marshal Radetsky will retire on attaining his next (90th) birthday, which falls on the 2nd of November.

The Sardinian Government has just published the trade returns of that kingdom for the year 1854. It shows a progressive development of manufacturing industry. An exhibition of native agriculture and manufactures is intended to be held at Turin in the year 1858.

The Mazzinians, it is rumoured, neither wise nor better for late failures, are again organising an insurrectionary movement, this time intending to make their attempt further south.

General della Marmora has, in the name of the King, invited General Canrobert to visit that capital.

The regulations for the sale of corn, which the Pop's lieutenant, Monsieur Andet, is attempting to impose on the inhabitants of the Legations, have excited great dissatisfaction; in some places the municipal authorities have daily refused to put them in execution. They prescribe that not a cart load of grain shall be conveyed from one place to another in the Roman States, without a ticket of license procured from the municipal authority, in which must be specified the place of its destination, the road by which it is to travel thither, and the estimated time when it will arrive there. Corn is not allowed to be conveyed along any other roads than those which are specially indicated for that purpose by the Government, unless it be fetched by the owner's servants for his own consumption, but even in this case he must obtain a certificate of the fact from the parish priest.

AUSTRIA.

BARON HUBNER, we learn, has been directed to proceed to Naples as soon as possible. It appears that the pardons recently granted by the king of Naples have not satisfied the Court of Vienna, and it is considered advisable that Baron Hubner's mission (intended to support the representations of the Western Powers) should be immediately carried out.

The Emperor of Austria has ordered the immediate mobilisation of the whole of the army, and the troops are being moved on Galicia and Italy.

Baron de Koller has been appointed Austrian Ambassador to Berlin, in the place of the late Count Esterhazy; and thus the post of Austrian representative in the commission for the re-organisation of the Principalities has become vacant.

PRUSSIA.

CONSIDERABLE sensation has been caused at Berlin by the flight of three officers of the Royal Guard, on account of being heavily in debt. The officers in question are Prince William of Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Major of Cuirassiers; Lieutenant de Hagen, of the Fusiliers of the Guard, son of the General commanding at Stettin; and Lieutenant Stosch, of the same regiment. His Majesty was so annoyed at these shameful desertions, that he is said to have warmly reproached the Minister of War, as well as General von Wrangel, with not having kept the officers under stricter discipline. General von Wrangel, on this, wrote to Prince William, who had stopped at Tauraggen, on the Russian frontier, telling him that if he did not send in his resignation in twenty-four hours, he should be cashiered. The Prince chose the former alternative. The Prince's mother, the Dowager Grand Duchess of Mecklenburg-Schwerin, sister of the King, refused positively to pay her son's debts; but the King has taken the payment on himself.

RUSSIA.

THE solemn entry of the Czar into Moscow is fixed for the 29th. His Majesty will leave St. Petersburg at seven o'clock in the morning of the 25th. According to the usage of the Russian ceremonial, the Czar must pass the seven or eight days between his entry into Moscow and the ceremony of the coronation in retirement, prayers, and fasting. It appears that his Majesty does not intend to remain at Moscow during the whole of the *filles*. It is thought that after the coronation he will pass the day of St. Alexander (the 11th September) at St. Petersburg, but will return on the day following to Moscow.

A letter from St. Petersburg, of the 9th, says:—"In the interview that the Count of Morny had yesterday with Prince Gortschakoff, Minister of Foreign Affairs, explanations were given respecting the questions raised by the press in Germany and England with respect to the evacuation of the Turkish territory in Asia Minor, and the occupation of the Isle of Serpents by the Russians. The explanations given lead us to consider this incident as completely terminated."

Russia, we hear, is about to publish a circular on the subject of the English demonstration at the Isle of Serpents.

An official announcement has appeared that the Russian troops were ready to evacuate Kars and the Ottoman territory, and that they have received orders to retire to Alexandropol.

TURKEY AND THE EAST.

ADVICES from Constantinople announce that Sir Houston Stewart, who is cruising in the Black Sea, had appeared off Odessa. General Stroganoff, governor of that town, after demanding instructions from his government by telegraph, acquainted Sir H. Stewart that orders had been given for the evacuation of Kars, of Ismail, of Reni, and of Kilis, and that the evacuation would be completed before the expiration of the term of six months fixed by the treaty of Paris.

The Montenegrius are very troublesome. They menace several districts, and Karchid Pacha has asked for reinforcements. In a fight at Podgoriza, some mosques and churches have been destroyed. A revolt in the province of Van has been suppressed.

Count Coronini, Commander-in-Chief of the Army of Occupation of the Principalities, left Giurgevo with his *suite* by a steamer for Temeswar. According to accounts from the Lower Danube, the term of the occupation by the Imperial troops is drawing to a close. All the heavy *matériel* and the field equipments have already been brought up the Danube by steamers, but no time has yet been positively fixed for the departure of the troops. The Turkish troops have begun to retire from the two points of Bucharest and Giurgevo, which they occupied in concert with the Austrians. The Turkish artillery and cavalry have gone to Schumla. The works at the north of the Sulina are proceeding favourably.

AMERICA.

THE enlistment question in the United States is now finally disposed of. Mr. Attorney-General Cushing writes:—

"The President directs me to say that he has decided to pardon Wagner, now under sentence, convicted of illegally enlisting recruits for the military service of Great Britain. The international question which grew out of the general fact of the enlistment of troops in the United States for the British service having been happily and amicably disposed of in a manner honourable to both countries, and the British minister, Mr. Crampton, and the other official persons who were connected or participated in the acts, having ceased, by the order of the President, to continue to exercise any official functions near this Government, it has not been conceived to be necessary to pursue further the municipal offence of subordinate persons concerned."

The State Department has information that the trade in Coolies, in American and British vessels, continues with unabated vigour in Cuba. An English captain is under contract for delivering this description of labourers on plantations, where they are treated no better than slaves. The emigration of these Chinese does not diminish the trade in Africans, who are imported in large numbers into Cuba.

President Pierce has decided not to employ the United States forces against the Vigilance Committee of San Francisco on the present application.

Mr. Brooks, of South Carolina (a senator of Sumner-thrashing notoriety), has been unanimously re-elected, and has taken his seat in Congress.

Mr. Herbert, of California (who murdered the waiter, but was acquitted on trial), has resumed his seat in Congress, and made a speech in his justification.

The last accounts from California show the San Francisco Vigilance Committee to be as vigilant, as numerous, and powerful as ever—extending the sphere of its operations to the seizure of the State arsenals of the city, and the arms in transit from General Wood, of the United States army, to the State authorities.

NICARAGUA.

GENERAL WALKER received an overwhelming majority for the Presidency, and was inaugurated on the 12th ult. General Walker delivered an inaugural address, in which the programme of his administration of the foreign and domestic concerns of the republic was briefly laid down. He says:—

"The principles which shall guide me in the administration both of the foreign and domestic affairs of the Government are few and simple. To allow the utmost liberty of speech and action compatible with order and good government, shall be the leading idea of my political conduct. Therefore the greatest possible freedom of trade will be established, with the view of making Nicaragua what nature intended her to be—the highway for commerce between two oceans. While facilitating as far as possible the material development of the state, I shall not be unmindful of its intellectual and moral requirements. To promote the proper education of the people, and to encourage them in the practices of that divine religion which constitutes the basis of all modern civilization, shall be the objects of primary importance."

MEXICO.

FROM Mexico we learn that immense placers of pure gold have been discovered in the southern portion of the State of Guerrero. Attention is called to the sulphur beds which exist at and around the volcanoes of Popocatepetl, and which are said to be inexhaustible. It is said that if Mexican energy could be stirred up to work these mines, a much better mode of sulphur could be obtained at less cost than from Italy.

WEST INDIES.

THE town of Belize (British Honduras) has suffered from a most calamitous fire, more extensive than the one which occurred two years ago. It was suppressed, but not extinguished, when the packet *Eagle* left Belize on the 18th of July. Full particulars could not be known, but some eighty houses were destroyed on the north side, only one on the south bank. Property to the amount of nearly half a million of dollars has probably been lost to the unfortunate inhabitants.

CEREMONIAL OF THE CZAR'S CORONATION.

THE official programme of the coronation to be observed at the coming coronation is published. We learn that the entrance to Moscow will be preceded by a signal of nine guns, and will be accompanied by the ringing or rather striking of the bells of the Cathedral of the Ascension. The procession itself will consist of a squadron of Cossacks of the Guard of the Black Sea and a squadron of Cossacks of the Guard; the representatives of the high nobility, two and two on horseback and in uniform, headed by the Marshal of the nobility of the circle of Moscow, and delegates from the different Asiatic tribes subject to the Russian sceptre, two and two on horseback; the Emperor on horseback, followed by the Minister of the Imperial House, the Minister of War, an Adjutant-General, a General *a la suite*, and one Adjutant on duty; the Grand Dukes (with the exception of the Grand Duke Vladimir Alexandrovitch, Prince Nicholas of Leuchtenberg, Prince Peter of Oldenburg, and the foreign Princes, all on horseback; and after them come all the Generals and Adjutants, also on horseback. The Empress Mother then follows in a gilded carriage of state, surmounted by an Imperial crown, and drawn by eight horses, each led by a groom; then the reigning Empress, with the Grand Duke Vladimir, in a similar carriage, followed by the Grand Duchesses and the Princesses of Oldenburg. As soon as the Emperor enters Moscow, seventy-one guns are to be fired; when their Majesties enter the Cathedral of the Ascension eighty-five guns will salute them. At the Kremlin they will be received by the clergy. The first Marshal of the Coronation and the members of the comptoir of the Palace will hand the Emperor bread and salt, and while this is going on 101 guns will be fired. The whole day long the bells will peal, and in the evening there is to be an illumination.

The proclamation is to be read at thirty-five different places, gates, bridges, &c., in Moscow, and distributed among the people; its general sense is as follows:—The Emperor Alexander Nicolajewitch, who has ascended the throne of his fathers, commands that his coronation and anointment shall take place on the 26th of the month of August (September 7), and that his consort shall participate in it. It then enjoins the subjects, on that auspicious day, to implore the blessing of Heaven on the Emperor's reign, and especially to pray that peace and tranquillity may abide in the empire.

The day of the coronation will be announced to the foreign Ambassadors by the masters of ceremonies in state carriages.

In the Church of the Ascension the throne of the Czar Johann III., the conqueror of Novgorod and the liberator of the land from the yoke of the Tartars, is placed for the Emperor, and for the reigning Empress is placed that of the Czar Michael Fedorowitch (the first of the house of Romanoff). On the right of the Emperor's throne there is placed for the Empress-Mother a canopy with the throne of the Czar Alexis Michailowitch, the father of Peter the Great. These thrones have never yet been used for this purpose.

At seven o'clock on the morning of the day of the coronation twenty-one guns will be fired. The Empress-Mother, wearing the Imperial mantle, and her crown on her head, will repair to the cathedral with the Grand Duke, heir to the throne. A hundred and one guns will indicate the conclusion of the coronation and anointment.

For three days after the coronation there are to be bells pealing all day, and illuminations in the evening; and on one of the days there will be small money distributed to the people at twenty different places as they come out of church.

THE NEAPOLITAN NOTE.

A SYNOPSIS of the note of the King of Naples, in reply to the recent notes of England and France, has been published. In it King Ferdinand formally declines all interference of the Western Powers in the internal affairs of his kingdom. He rejects it as contrary to all the rules of international law—as an attack upon the independence and dignity of his Crown. He may, as a proof of his good-will, listen to communications made with a view to the consolidation of public order in Europe; but then such communications must be made with that moderation and deference which is due to a free and independent Sovereign, and he alone must be allowed to form his judgment upon the propriety of the proposed measures, and of the moment for carrying them out. No one except the King himself can form a correct judgment upon what circumstances may require. It is asserted that the present state of things requires certain alterations and improvements. It is stated that the armed attacks of the revolution against the Government of the Two Sicilies have ceased. This is prima facie evidence that the system opposed to them, and which is the object of such violent attacks, is not so useless or so harmful as some persons wish it to be believed. But it is added, the necessity for such a system no longer exists. The King is not of this opinion, and his will cannot be opposed, unless the exercise of superior force can be asserted as a right. But what will then become of the principle of Royal authority, and what value will be attached to the acts of a Government, which have emanated under the pressure of a foreign Power? Under such circumstances, any concession, however justifiable, would lose all effect. His Majesty, King Ferdinand, therefore regards himself as perfectly justified in maintaining his prerogative, and of notifying his intention to decide himself alone upon what ought to be done, and the proper time for doing it. After having taken such energetic measures at home to put down revolution, France surely cannot seek to create it in Italy. This would be in direct opposition to that wise and clever policy which has been so successfully carried out. France and England should also remember that the war in the East was undertaken precisely to prevent a foreign Power from interfering in the affairs of Turkey. Any similar interference in the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies would be a curious anomaly, not to give it a more precise qualification. King Ferdinand cannot, and will not, believe in anything of the sort. He places full confidence in the acknowledged principle so gloriously established by the Courts of Paris and London, according to which every independent State, although much weaker than the Power which wishes to force its counsels upon it, has the incontestable right to reject those counsels, if they contain a menace or an attack upon its independence. The King is firmly resolved to adhere to what he has said. If, however, an attempt should be made—which is scarcely possible—to go further (russer out), His Majesty, relying on the justice of his cause, would appeal to the patriotism of his people, and, trusting to his brave and faithful army, would repel force by force.

THE MONTENEGRINS.—Recent letters from the frontiers of Montenegro give particulars of a recent massacre of Turks and Christians at Kuci, by the Montenegrius. On the first attack forty Catholic families had managed, with their priest, to escape the general massacre, and retreated to the mountains, where they lived for three days on roots and berries. On their return, they found their houses not only plundered but burnt, and this was also the fate of the Catholic church. More than 200 Turks of all ages, many of whom were women and children, were butchered in cold blood. In this catalogue of horrors, the unhappy fate of one Catholic family in particular has created the greatest commiseration and sympathy. The husband was engaged in packing up his valuables when he was attacked by six of the Montenegrius, who literally cut him to pieces. At the sight of this wanton act of brutality, the wife was so appalled that she instantly went out of her senses, and, whilst in that state, set fire to the cradle in which her baby was asleep, then killed her other child—a little girl of five years—by splitting her head open with a hatchet, and finally set fire herself to the house, and perished in the flames.

DUKE MICHAEL'S BRIDE.—People write from Carlsruhe, that the young Grand Duke Michael of Russia is over head and ears in love with his fair bride, who is studying the Russian language, under the tuition of a learned professor, hitherto entrusted with the education of M. de Tiflis's sons. A Russian pastor is also charged with the instruction of the young princess in the tenets of the "orthodox" faith, which she will embrace prior to the celebration of the marriage.

LEPERS IN INDIA.—The neglected condition of those unfortunate beings, the lepers in India, has attracted the attention of the Commissioner of the Trans-Sutlej States, from whose statement it appears that, in Kangra alone, there are 1,400 of the *le*. It is the benevolent object of the proposer to build an asylum for these afflicted creatures, where they can have medical treatment and other attentions to mitigate, if not cure, their sufferings.

THE CHOLERA IN AGRA.—A terrible outbreak of cholera has occurred at Agra, which attacks even the Europeans. Usually they are exempt from the scourge that they become culpably indifferent to the most ordinary precautions. In the jail the disease proved so virulent that the remaining prisoners, upwards of 3,000 (it is said) in number, have been forced into encampments on the plain. The water of the Jumna has become putrid, apparently from the discharge of stagnant water from the Jumna Canal. The natives appear to be almost insane with fright. They declare that a mysterious horseman is riding over the country, and wherever his horse's hoofs strike there the pestilence appears. They are actually offering up figures of this demon rider in the temples.

IRELAND.

POISONING BY SALT PETRE.—An inquiry has been held before one of the Coroners of the county of Cavan, on the body of a little boy aged about eight years, an inmate of Ballinacorney Union. He came by his death suddenly from the effects of strychnine, administered by mistake, in a mixture of jalap prescribed by Dr. Wright, while acting as locum tenens for the medical officer of the workhouse. The doctor in making up a couple of worm powders for the deceased, had inadvertently mistaken some strychnine for calomel, although the bottle which contained it was labelled on both sides, the label being, it appeared, somewhat indistinct. The boy died in about an hour after the first powder was administered to him, all the symptoms being those of death by strychnine. The jury returned a verdict that the deceased came by his death in consequence of strychnine prescribed by Dr. Wright in mistake for calomel, but expressed their opinion that he had no evil intention.

THE TIPPERARY BANK.—A circular has been issued by the Irish Poor Law Commissioners to those unions which had unfortunately their accounts with the Tipperary Joint-Stock Bank, informing them of the opinion of the Solicitor-General as to the mode of apportioning the losses incurred by its failure. The learned Gentleman states that the assets of the unions consisting of cash, at the date of payment being stopped, should be ascertained as actually belonging to each electoral division, and that the sums so found should be charged accordingly. The justice of this procedure is questioned by some of the unions to which it is recommended. It is asserted that the balance in the treasurer's hands being a common fund, it ought to be a common loss, borne equally by the entire union; while on the other hand it is urged that a division which had but a small balance to its credit—that balance, however, fairly representing its requirements—it would be taxed unjustly if called upon to make good a sum which it neither had nor required.

JAMES SALLIER.—A letter from Clonmel repeats the story that the fugitive Member for Tipperary was lately seen near Coolnamuck, and had successfully evaded the pursuit of the police. The indictment against Sallier, which is lying at the Crown Office in Clonmel, covers half-a-dozen skins of parchment.

STATE OF THE LABOUR-MARKET.—Notwithstanding the number of hands thrown into the market by the dismemberment of the militia, the supply so far falls short of the demand. In the remote parts of the south the lowest rate of wages for men is 2s. per diem; and for women 1s. each. In the midland counties, too, there are the same healthy signs of the social condition of the agricultural classes.

PROVINCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

A FAMILY ARRESTED FOR MURDER.—A family of respectable reputation, named Manning, consisting of a mother, two sons, and two daughters, have been arrested and brought before the Magistrates at Cirencester, being charged with the murder of a farmer, named Lelane, whose body was found about fifteen months since, in a river that runs at some distance from his own farm. It is said that the evidence which principally implicates the prisoners is that of a man who lived in the service of the Mannings at the time when the body of Lelane was found, and who is now in the employment of the son of Lelane.

GRAND SHOOTING—THE OPENING DAY.—The dawn of the long-anticipated 12th of August brought with it no diminution of that deep and exciting interest which is invariably experienced by the lovers of grouse-shooting, and the pleasures and excitement of the day were entered into with more than usual spirit. Broadfield Moors had a larger amount of coverts than many parties had been induced to expect. The weather in the morning was favourable, and the birds were found to be numerous and remarkably strong on the wing. In the early part of the day the coverts lay so well that heavy bags were confidently expected. About noon, however, indications of a change were visible. Puffs of thunder were heard in the distance, and shortly afterwards the rain began to descend in torrents, and continued with slight intermission till the approach of evening—a circumstance which in this as well as all other similar cases had the effect of making the coverts very wild, without packing. Previously, however, some of the "old hands" had made short work with the matter, and, considering the length of time, were successful.

THE BEACH HEALED.—The parties who appeared in a case of breach of promise of marriage, at the recent Wilts Assizes (Sarah Powney, of Bromham, v. David Evans, of Liverpool), were married at Bromham Church, on Saturday morning.

DISTRESSING SUICIDE.—On Saturday evening, an inquest was held at Canterbury, on the body of Elizabeth Ann Steer, a single woman, twenty-one years of age, who had committed suicide that morning by hanging herself in the wash-house of her brother's house. The deceased was to have been married the previous day to a carbiner of the name of Treaves, but the commanding officer refused to grant leave, and her friends were opposed to it, especially her mother-in-law, who had caused her to leave home in consequence. The deceased, it appeared, had previously kept company with a young man named West, and was desirous, for some cause, to leave the country, which she thought to effect by marriage with Treaves, who was about leaving for India. The poor girl was found hanging, and dead, shortly after a detachment of the carbiniers left the city en route for India. In her bosom was the following letter, written only a few minutes before committing the fatal deed. It was addressed to her former sweetheart:—"George, you took great trouble to write to me on Tuesday about my going with Treaves. He was a man; he will either live or die for me, and I will do so for him. Remember, George, how you deceived me. Daily and hourly you sought my ruin; often did you wish to get me into trouble, but the Lord protected me so far. Your conscience will tell you, you was a base, deceitful man, but God never pays debts with money. My life I will forfeit. Pay my dear father and mother what you owe me; it will help my funeral expenses. You have broken my mind, you seduced me, and God will reward you for it. You will never prosper. Remember these last dying words of one who has been the dupe of all your lies. My heart aches, my hand trembles, and in a few moments I shall be launched into eternity." The jury returned a verdict that "the deceased destroyed herself while labouring under temporary insanity."

CHILD MURDER.—At a farm-house, near East Bedford, the decomposed body of an infant was found in a well. One of the female servants, after at first denying it, confessed that the child was hers, and that she had killed it. The child was born alive," she said, "and cried, up in which I put my garter round its neck, and threw it into this well." A verdict of wilful murder has been returned.

MISTAKEN IDENTITY.—A very extraordinary case of mistaken identity was brought under the notice of the Liverpool coroner on Friday week. On the 8th inst., an inquest was held on the body of a man unknown, who was found floating in the river. On the Saturday, some persons called on the coroner, saying they were from Southport, and requesting to see the body. On its being shown to them, they recognised it as that of Mr. Augustin Hustin, of Bristol, who only the same week was drowned while bathing at Southport. So convinced were they of the identity of the body, that they claimed it for burial, and it was given up to them and buried on Sunday. On the Monday following the body of Mr. Hustin was discovered at Southport. Under these circumstances, the friends of Mr. Hustin applied for a return of the burial fees in the case of the mistaken body. The coroner declined to interfere.

NARROW ESCAPE OF ELEVEN BOYS FROM DROWNING.—On Monday afternoon, eleven boys, whose ages ranged from ten to thirteen years, got on board a small cockle-boat, and paid a penny each to have a short sail on the Mersey. The boat, which had one sail, was given entirely into the charge of the inexperienced mariners, who proceeded round the landing-stage, and as far as the Albert Dock. On their return, owing to their bad steering, they came in contact with the outside fender of a steamer, which was moored to the landing-stage. The boys, alarmed, rushed on one side of their small craft, which was immediately capsized, and the unfortunate young crew of course plunged into the water. Several boats from the back of the landing-stage and from the Scaconbe slip were promptly put in motion, and the whole were fortunately saved, but three of them were in a very exhausted condition.

FATAL MISTAKE.—A distressing mistake was made in a druggist's shop in Salford, on Thursday week, by the substitution of tincture of iodoform for tincture of rhubarb. This error resulted in the death of an interesting girl, about thirteen years of age, named Elizabeth Bramhall. The bottles containing the two mixtures were placed near together in the apothecary's shop, and the iodoform bottle was taken up in mistake for that containing tincture of rhubarb, there being no difference in the colour.

ATTACK OF THE RIFF PIRATES UPON THE PRUSSIAN HIGH ADMIRAL.—We have intelligence of an outrage on the part of the Riff pirates, quite of a crowning character to all former outrages. It appears his Royal Highness Prince Adalbert, Lord High Admiral of the Prussian Navy, was anxious to inspect personally the scene, on the Riff coast, of an outrage some time since on a Prussian ship, whose crew was massacred by these ferocious hordes, and accordingly proceeded in his large to the scene of the encounter. His landing was not only opposed, but he was fired upon. This roused the spirit of the sailor, who returned to his frigate, armed and armed her boats, and then again sought the scene of his latent offence. This time vast numbers of the pirates had collected and made a formidable demonstration; but the Prince Admiral dashed ashore, and charged the Rifians up a steep hill. The result, however, was disastrous; the Gallant Prince was struck down with a ball in his thigh; his flag-lieutenant was mortally wounded, the mate of the party shot in the arm, seven men were killed, and seventeen wounded; these were left on the field, being unable to get them off. In fact, the whole of the Prince's party were nearly cut off. The survivors were ultimately got on board the frigate, and subsequently to Gibraltar Hospital. Her Majesty's ship "Venus" was despatched immediately to the Morocco authorities to demand an explanation and satisfaction.

ARCHDEACON DENISON'S CASE.—Judgment has been given against Archdeacon Denison. It has been decided that the Archdeacon's published doctrine as to the Eucharist is contrary to the 28th and 29th articles. The Archbishop has "allowed time to the Venerable the Archdeacon to revoke his errors" till the 1st of October next. If no such revocation be made, the Archbishop will then pronounce sentence.

THE STRIKE OF THE STONEMASONS AT NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE, for a weekly half-holiday, still continues. Some few of the small masters have acceded to the claim of the workmen; but the large majority of the principal employers refuse to comply with the demand.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

THE FUNERAL OF THE LATE MADAME VESTRIE took place on Thursday week, at Kensal Green Cemetery. The funeral was of a perfectly private nature, there being only one mourning coach, in which were Mr. Charles Mathews, the physician attendant upon the deceased, and Mr. Morrison, a friend of the family.

NASTIES is greatly excited, in consequence of the accusation of an ancient mayor of that city of having assassinated a banker and his female servant. The local journals are filled with acronyms respecting this strange and terrible event.

THE DEATH OF ONE HENRY WATLES, aged sixty-two, the oldest Australian emigrant, is reported in the Melbourne papers. He had resided in the colony thirty-seven years.

THE DUKE ERNEST OF SAXE COBURG-GOTHA, a musical amateur, who is already the author of four operas, is now engaged in composing a fifth opera, entitled "Donna," the literary accompaniment being supplied by Otto Prechtler, for the German, and M. Gustave Oppelt, for the French version.

THE POOR LAW COMMISSIONERS have informed the guardians at Marylebone, that in consequence of statements respecting the flogging of certain female inmates of the house, they (the Commissioners) had directed one of their inspectors to make a strict investigation into the whole circumstances.

MAJOR-GENERAL CHARLES ASH WINDHAM, C.B., will shortly proceed to India to assume the command of a division of the Bengal army.

THE RE-PAINTING OF SIR JAMES THORNHILL'S EIGHT PICTURES, representing events in the life of St. Paul, which cover the inner dome of St. Paul's Cathedral, has just been completed by Mr. E. T. Parris. Mr. Parris has been successfully engaged for three years in this lonely and perilous task.

THE WILL OF MR. SAMUEL GURNEY, the late eminent banker and bill-broker, has been proved under £800,000. The probate duty payable on this sum to the Government is £10,500. The deceased left a large landed property besides.

THE RUSSIAN COMMISSARIAT seem to have made some pretty "pickings" during the war in the Crimea—a committee of inquiry has discovered embezzlements and deficiencies of no less than ninety million roubles.

JOHN MAY, a convict, has been committed for trial for assaulting a warder of Dartmoor prison with a spade.

FIVE THOUSAND CASES OF CHOLERA, and 1,500 deaths, had occurred up to the 3rd of August amongst the population of Funchal (Madeira), which numbered only 28,000.

THE BANQUET to be given to those of the Guards who have seen service in the Crimea, is definitively fixed for Monday next, the 25th, at the Surrey Gardens.

THE DIRECTOR OF THE EMBROIDERY PICTURE GALLERY, at Vienna, has been arrested. The charge against him is of having sold a great number of valuable engravings and rare original pictures from that gallery, and replaced the latter by copies which he had got made of them.

A MAN, employed in harvesting in France, sat down and prepared a fire to cook his dinner; the wind being high, some of the burning chips set a sheet of corn on fire; the flame extended, and before it was suppressed, thirty-seven and a-half acres of standing corn were consumed.

TOM THUMB has been robbed of all the jewels he had received as presents during the last eight or nine years, and amounting in value to £1,000 or £5,000.

A SHARK, five feet long, has been captured in the river Stour.

THE SPORT IN THE NORTH seems good. The accounts from the deer forests are, without exception, very favourable. Grouse are selling in the Inverness market at 2s. to 2s. a brace; birds for packing a little additional.

AN AGENT OF KOSSUTH, who had been some months in prison, was hanged at Pesth on the 25th ult.

A FRENCH BRIG AND AN ENGLISH SHIP came into collision near Sunderland Bay on Tuesday week, and the latter went down immediately, and six of her crew were drowned.

M. DE MOREY is a very great favourite at St. Petersburg, his profuse style of living going far to touch the Russian heart. Every morning regularly 100 bottles of Medoc are delivered at his door for the use of his domestic servants till next morning.

THE CZAR has decorated the Emperor Napoleon with the Collar and Order of St. Andrew.

THE TROOPS AT ALDERSHOTT will manoeuvre, weather permitting, every succeeding Tuesday, until further orders.

A NUMBER of valuable and well-known horses have been purchased in England for the Emperor of Russia, and shipped to St. Petersburg.

THE INSANE CLERGYMAN, who was recently found in a deplorable state in a wheat field near Wisbech, had only recently been married.

THE ARCHBISHOP OF CHERSON AND TAURIDOR consecrated the South side of Sebastopol on the 21st ult., previously to the re-building of that city. It will be rebuilt at the national expense, after a plan adopted at St. Petersburg. A vast suspension bridge is to restore communications between the south and north sides.

THE DUCHESS OF CAMBRIDGE and the Princess Mary of Cambridge left town on Saturday for Cologne.

AN ACT COMPELLING FARMERS, under a penalty, to destroy thistles, has been passed in Australia.

THE DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE has had his fine collection of cameos and intaglios fitted up as a set of superb jewels, to be worn on the occasion of the coronation of the Czar, by Lady Granville.

LORD JOHN RUSSELL and FAMILY arrived at Vevay on the 12th inst. His Lordship will return to England, to attend to his Parliamentary duties, in all probability before the close of February—certainly before Easter.

THE DEAD BODY OF POIRIER, the murderer, cut off the head of a woman in the Rue de Fidélité, Paris, has just been discovered in the Bois de Vincennes. He doubtless committed suicide.

THE "DAILY NEWS" suggested that England should subscribe to present Serbia with guns to arm her new fortifications. The hint has met with notice, and the editor has received contributions to a considerable amount.

AT BLACKLEY WAKES, two men, dressed as soldiers, and one of them carrying a gun, ran after a man of somewhat weak intellect, by which he was so frightened as to fall several times, and died shortly afterwards, chiefly from fright.

A NEPARIUS TRADE is being carried on in the sale of nuggets, made up of from 40s. to 60s. gold, and strongly electroplated; some of these weigh from three oz. to five oz., are very handsome, and well "got up."

THE PRICE OF HARVEST LABOUR has risen until the farmers outbid the railway contractors, and they find themselves compelled to suspend, for the present, the execution of all but very pressing public works. This scarcity of labour is to be attributed, first, to the great emigration from Ireland, and again to the recent demand for recruits.

MISS NIGHTINGALE, we most sincerely regret to learn, is suffering from the effects of her long and arduous self-devotion to the cause for which she made such unparalleled exertions.

A VERY REMARKABLE THEORY has been started in Melbourne as to the origin of gold. A Mr. Mooney declares his belief that "gold is the petrified fat of a peculiar fish, which once floated over the gold-fields when those fields were beds and bottoms of the world's great ocean."

HER MAJESTY'S SHIP MALACCA lost nearly all her crew at Port Royal, in Jamaica, from yellow fever. It was necessary to press blacks to work her to H. m. d. The crews of the Hermes and Téméraire, in the West Indies, have suffered severely from fever.

JOHN MITCHELL publishes a long letter in the New York papers, urging the Irish in America to vote for Mr. Buchanan.

THE ENTIRE FLEET of the General Screw Steam Shipping Company, it is said, will probably be purchased at once by the Russian Government.

MR. WARD RYDER, Secretary of the Huddersfield Philosophical Society, whose deflections caused his sudden departure from that town in June, is in custody at Bologna, on a charge of stealing a watch.

THE REV. WILLIAM CURETON, Canon of Westminster, and Chaplain to her Majesty, has been honoured with the degree of Doctor of Divinity, by the University of Halle, for services rendered by him to theological literature, in editing and illustrating the Arabic and Syriac MSS. of the British Museum.

BALMORAL CASTLE is nearly completed; the workmen are at present finishing the large turret of the square tower. The carpets are being laid down, and all orders to see the house are being suspended, as her Majesty is expected shortly.

THE TOTAL DEBT of the United States amounted to \$4,049,309 dollars 75 cents on the 1st of June. Since that time this amount has been reduced to \$2,963,892 dollars 98 cents.

MR. MACAULAY, we learn, is about to travel to Venice, and on his return proposes to proceed vigorously with his history.

THE AMOUNT raised in Liverpool towards the fund for the relief of the sufferers by the terrible inundations in France is about £1,000. This sum was forwarded direct to Paris, and not added to the fund collected in London.

A MONUMENT, erected by the City of Warsaw to Marshal Paskiewicz, was inaugurated on the 2nd. It contains a long inscription, setting forth his name, titles, dignities, and the principal incidents of his military career, which is stated to have begun under Paul I., and to have ended at the siege of Silistria in 1854.

THE RUSSIANS make a demand upon the French for 400,000 francs for damages done to the Russian Embassy at Constantinople, it having been converted into a French hospital during the war.

THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

At the clubs! nonsense! the clubs are now simply vast halls of desert dreariness, devoid of members, and populated but by pallid, worn-out looking waiters, who glare misanthropically on such wretched men as are compelled by misfortune to remain in town. Bear with me yet ten days longer, Chawles and Jeanes, and then I too will quit these scenes of misery, and will seek purer air and clearer skies; for my mind is made up, and, despising editors, printers, and all the inky gang, I will get a little rest and relaxation away from my ordinary haunts. No newspaper shall cross my path except the piratical "Galignani," no Fall Mall nonsense, no rumours from the publishers or the *confidés* shall reach me in my ears, but I will once again look upon those blue Rhenish mountains, and mouldy Strillon cheese-like ruins, and will once more prove to the landlords of *Gasthäuser* and *Wirthschaffs* that there are Englishmen who can exist without tea and beefsteaks, and who can fully appreciate the excellences of raw ham sandwiches and Bairisch beer. The Rhine, they tell me, is crammed, and the denizens of Finsbury Square there accumulating can find no place to lay their heads. But I know one or two snug inns unrecognized by Murray, and utterly unknown to the wild tourist, (I will instance the "Gasthaus zum Karpen" at Mayence for example,) where old recollections will procure me a hearty welcome, and where I shall be far more comfortable and at home than in the grand and gorgeous palaces, the denizens of which learn literally more "bad language" in a day than is uttered in the slums of St. Giles in a twelvemonth. Being here, however, what have I to say? The principal topic of conversation appears to be the mistake committed by Sir George Grey in allowing the recent execution of Elizabeth Brown, having some weeks since extended the prerogative of mercy to Celestina Sommers. It was at the time too evident that the clemency granted in the latter instance was a fatal error of judgment, and it any person guilty of murder can be pardoned, perhaps the wretched woman Brown was a fit subject for such forgiveness. Irritated to madness by the cruelty and brutality of her faithless husband, she struck him an unlucky blow, which terminated fatally, but she had experienced such provocation as few amongst us possessing the advantages of sense and education could have borne. She paid the extreme penalty for her rashness; and the morbid gentlemen who inveigh against capital punishment, have, in this instance, to a certain extent enlisted the sympathies of many rational thinkers in their cause. The carrying out of the sentence is not, however, greatly to be deplored; there has for some time past been an unhealthy sentimentality for great criminals, and some public journals have even been led into advocating the principle of partial remission of punishment. A healthy reaction is now taking place, and the fate of these wretched beings will be a warning to many who need the extreme penalty to be held up to them as a warning ere they will attempt to bridle the strongest and worst passions of their nature.

Our friends the Americans are "progressing;" Mr. Brooks, the person who committed the ruffianly assault in the Senate on Mr. Sumner, and then resigned his seat, has been re-elected with the greatest unanimity. A journal, speaking of the re-election, says that his constituents said to him, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant," and would have added, if necessary, "Hit him again." This is the choicest *mélange* of blasphemy and blackguardism that I have lately encountered.

The banquet to the Guards, to be given by public subscription at the Surrey Gardens, is fixed for Monday next. The contributions have been most liberal, and the fare to be provided will, it is understood, be tempting even to the most successful heroes of Belgravian kitchen-worship. Lord Ranelagh and Colonel Knox will preside at different tables; and in addition to the diners, a large assemblage is expected to witness the entertainment. Mr. Sims, of St. James's Street, who is the honorary treasurer, has been indefatigable in his exertions to promote the success of the scheme.

There is every prospect of our once again seeing the incomparable Ristori, who, according to her present intentions, purposes to return to London in June next. In the interval she will visit Amsterdam, Dresden, Berlin, Warsaw, Pesth, Naples, and Paris.

It is not generally known that the late Madame Vestrie had one child by her first husband, which died at an early age. The funeral of this celebrated woman took place on Thursday, the 14th inst., no one being present except Mr. Charles Mathews, the physician, and Mr. Robert Morrison (formerly proprietor of the well-known hotel, "Morrison's," in Dublin), an old friend of the family.

Achard, well-known to the Parisian theatrical world as a most admirable actor, died suddenly last week. He was for many years attached to the Palais Royal Theatre.

Mr. Albert Smith's entertainment closes on the 31st of this month, and will re-open about the end of October. Sketches of character at the gambling tables of Baden will, it is said, be the staple attraction of his next season's entertainment. Mr. Woodin's *Ohio of Oddities* closes this evening, Saturday; and the versatile "polygraphist" commences his provincial tour at Brighton.

The old conventional regulations as to the proper time for publishing are being rapidly broken up. Formerly a publisher would have been thought insane who produced a book in August; now Mr. Charles Reade's three-volume novel, "It is Never too Late to Mend," brought out a few days since, is confessedly declared the best book of the year, and will undoubtedly be the most popular. The success of Captain Mayne Reid's book, "The Quadroon," is another proof of the fallacy of the ancient dictum.

THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

THE ADELPHI—GOSSIP.

A THREE act drama, new to this country, but which has been played for upwards of seven hundred times in America, called "Ireland as it is," was produced at the Adelphi on Monday night. It is written by an Englishman, a Mr. Amherst, and is certainly as sorry a production as one would wish to see. There is no interest, no continuity, and scarcely any story in the plot, the piece being evidently written to allow the conventional stage Irishman to run riot, sing songs, scream, and dance jigs throughout the three acts, without any particular reason for any of his pranks. I have a faint recollection of some story of Carleton's, called, I think, "The Squanders of Castle Squander," from which the plot is derived. An Irish nobleman, an absentee, leaves the entire charge of his estate to an agent or "middleman" who, being a most consummate rogue, tyrannises over the wretched peasantry in an unheard of manner, and not only bullies them for rent, but takes illegal methods of annoying them, such as firing their ricks and putting purses into their unsuspecting pockets, with a view to denouncing them as thieves. Bored during the three acts by the terribly virtuous and lengthy speeches of an old peasant, and insulted by two uproarious low comic Irish characters, male and female, the wretched agent is finally settled by the appearance of his employer, who, in a very bad disguise, has made himself acquainted with the middleman's villany. Mr. Barney Williams acted, sung, and danced admirably, but his wife was not well suited with her part, her brogue was strained and unnatural, and she committed a mistake that was decidedly unartistic. As a common peasant she wore boots which, from their finish and shape, smacked of Bond Street or Broadway. True, she can plead the possession of a lovely pair of feet as her excuse. Mr. Selby, always a conscientious, clever, and painstaking actor, seems to have taken up the line of "old men," and invests every character he undertakes with a distinctness and colouring which assert themselves even in the smallest parts. Mr. C. J. Smith, too, who played a London scamp of the lowest order, is entitled to a strong word of commendation.

The Princess's Theatre closed on Friday, and will re-open again on the 1st of September with a revival of "Pizarro." Gorgeousness of scenery and introduction of "historical incident" are still to be the *chefs-d'œuvre* of the *bataille* at this house.

The Lyceum will open, it is said, on the 15th of September. Mr. Conquest and Mr. Dillon are both clever men, but what they will do with Mesdames Woolgar, Harriet Gordon, L. S. Buckingham, and a host of others, all, so to speak, in the same "line of business," I cannot tell.

Mr. E. T. Smith, with that good taste which characterises his every movement, announces that he has engaged "the Keelies," and that "Mr. Charles Mathews hopes again to be at home in Old Drury." I can fancy the creeping sensation with which Mr. Mathews, with all his faults a

gentlemanly and accomplished man, reads this announcement! He likewise makes an enormous puff of the engagement of a Mrs. Emma Waller, a lady whom under her maiden name I recollect as a third-rate actress in the *résumé* of "Novelty Fair" at the Lyceum.

Mr. and Mrs. Leigh Murray are engaged at the Adelphi. I believe the rebuilding of this theatre is deferred.

OPERA, NEW MUSIC, ETC.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE was kept open a week longer than was originally intended, owing, it is said, to the additional attractiveness conferred upon "Traviata" by the articles in the "Times," in elucidation of its immorality. Of the gross immorality of the work on which "La Traviata" is founded there can be no doubt; but without some such explanation as the leading journal has kindly given of the plot, the British public might have attended the representations of Verdi's opera without even suspecting the real social position of the heroine. In the comedy of "La Dame aux Camélias" (for it essentially a comedy, in spite of its tragic termination), we have a picture of dissolute life, presenting details which are certainly far from edifying. In the novel of the same name these details are even revolting; but in the opera they entirely disappear. All the public see in the opera is this: *Two lovers with an obstacle in the way of their happiness; when the obstacle is removed it is too late, one of the pair being already on the point of death.* It is unimportant for the musical situations whether the heroine be a Clarissa Harlowe or a Manon Lescaut; and accordingly all the character and colouring of the piece have been thrown aside by the librettist, probably not from any moral scruples on the part of that gentleman, but simply because they possessed no musical utility.

Mr. Lumley has replied to the "Times" in a letter, which is more remarkable for its virtuous tone (all who have taken part in the discussion have been overflowing with virtue) than for its logic or sound critical views. Mr. Lumley argues, that because a seduction takes place in the "Vicar of Wakefield," therefore the "Vicar of Wakefield" has no greater claims to morality than the "Dame aux Camélias." According to this argument the "Dame aux Camélias" is even *more* moral than the "Vicar of Wakefield," for in the former work no seduction takes place at all. In spite of this, the public will probably continue to look upon Goldsmith's work as tending to good, and upon Dumas' as tending to evil, for any ordinary reader who chooses to take a straightforward view of the question sees instinctively that a book is offensive in proportion to the complacency with which the author dwells upon offensive details; and that it is not bad, simply because the author chooses to introduce a bad person into the story. It is worthy of remark, that although all the characters in the "Dame aux Camélias" live in an atmosphere of vice, not one of them ever commits the slightest offence against the law of the land. The father, it is true, is not by any means a virtuous personage in the novel, or in the comedy, but in the opera the librettist has utterly sacrificed the old gentleman's reputation to the concerted music, so that he also is dragged into the vortex of dissipation, and this merely to give strength to the finale of the second act.

We must not omit to notice that in one part of his letter Mr. Lumley assures the Editor of the "Times," that the period of the opera was put back to the eighteenth century, for the sake of *morality*, (one would imagine that managers and librettists never thought of any thing else!) when it is evident to every one who reflects for a moment, that the eighteenth century was chosen, merely because it admitted of costumes somewhat more picturesque than those of the present day.

It appears to us that, in confining his remarks to the immorality of "La Traviata," the "Times" allows many of its readers to continue to entertain an opinion which is general enough, to the effect that the work on which it is founded possesses great merit in an artistic point of view. Such an opinion would, of course, justify the reading and circulation of the book in question, just as the "Tales of the Queen of Navarre," or (to proceed higher in art and lower in indecency) the works of Rabelais, may be pronounced tolerable by reason of their great literary merit.

Now, an Englishman should never be too free in criticising the style of a foreign author (unless it be an author in one of the dead languages, in which case liberties are, of course, allowed—and taken); therefore we will say nothing about the language and dialogue of the "Dame aux Camélias," except that the best French critics declare it to be weakly written. As to the probability and naturalness of the characters and incidents, we will first of all call attention to the absurdity of imagining that in any decent or indecent society in which men of ordinary manliness were in the habit of mixing, any *amant de cœur*, even of the most contemptible character, could be found capable of insulting the former object of his attentions by throwing money at her feet; or that, if he did do so, he could escape instantaneous personal chastisement from some of the numerous volunteers who would at once come forward to inflict it. The scene to which we allude is retained in the opera, where it forms the *finale* to the second act.

The great scene between the heroine and the father of her lover in the earlier part of the same act is unnatural and absurd as it exists, and the main idea on which it is founded has been borrowed from an incident in Mürger's "Vie de Bohème," which was itself taken from an incident in one of Madame Gay's novels. The absurdity of the scene, as we have it in the "Dame aux Camélias," consists in the fact, that a woman, who is entirely devoted to her lover, is made to represent to him that her affection has been only simulated, or at least only temporary, and that she is in reality of an utterly inconstant disposition. Now, whatever she might do for the sake of her lover's material prosperity, she would never consent to lower herself in his eyes; or, at all events, the last fault of which she would think of accusing herself, would be that of inconstancy to him. The scene is simply impossible as it stands, and the separation of the lovers should have been brought about either without the consent of the lady, or certainly without her consenting to produce it by representing herself as having betrayed a man whom she is in fact adored.

The best acts in the "Dame aux Camélias" (in a literary point of view) are the first and fifth, for in them we find a very clever representation of a kind of life which, let us add, ought never to be represented. In the fifth act, too, there is a certain amount of genuine passion.

Let us now add that we believe M. Dumas *filz*, has not been driven to the improprieties of the "Dame aux Camélias" by any especial love for such things, but because in his eager pursuit of "realism" he has presented details which should have been omitted; he has carried the Balzac system *ad absurdum*, and has administered the results *exquisitè au naturel*.

Before we quit the subject of the "Traviata," we may recommend M. René Favarger's fantasia, or airs from that opera (Cramer, Beale, and Chappell), as a very attractive piece, although founded on motives which, for us, never had much attraction. The pretty duet of the last act contributes something towards the introduction, which leads to the lover's "declaration" in the first act (repeated about fifteen times in the course of the opera). Then we have the "Di Provenza" of the second act, and, finally, the *brindisi* of the first, with variations. This fantasia combines the advantages of brilliancy and facility.

In the way of ballads, the prettiest which has appeared for some time is Charles Kerrison Sala's "Music of the Past" (Chappell). Mr. Sala has already published some very pleasing songs, and this last is perhaps the best he has produced. The melody is simple and unaffected, and the accompaniment is written with much grace.

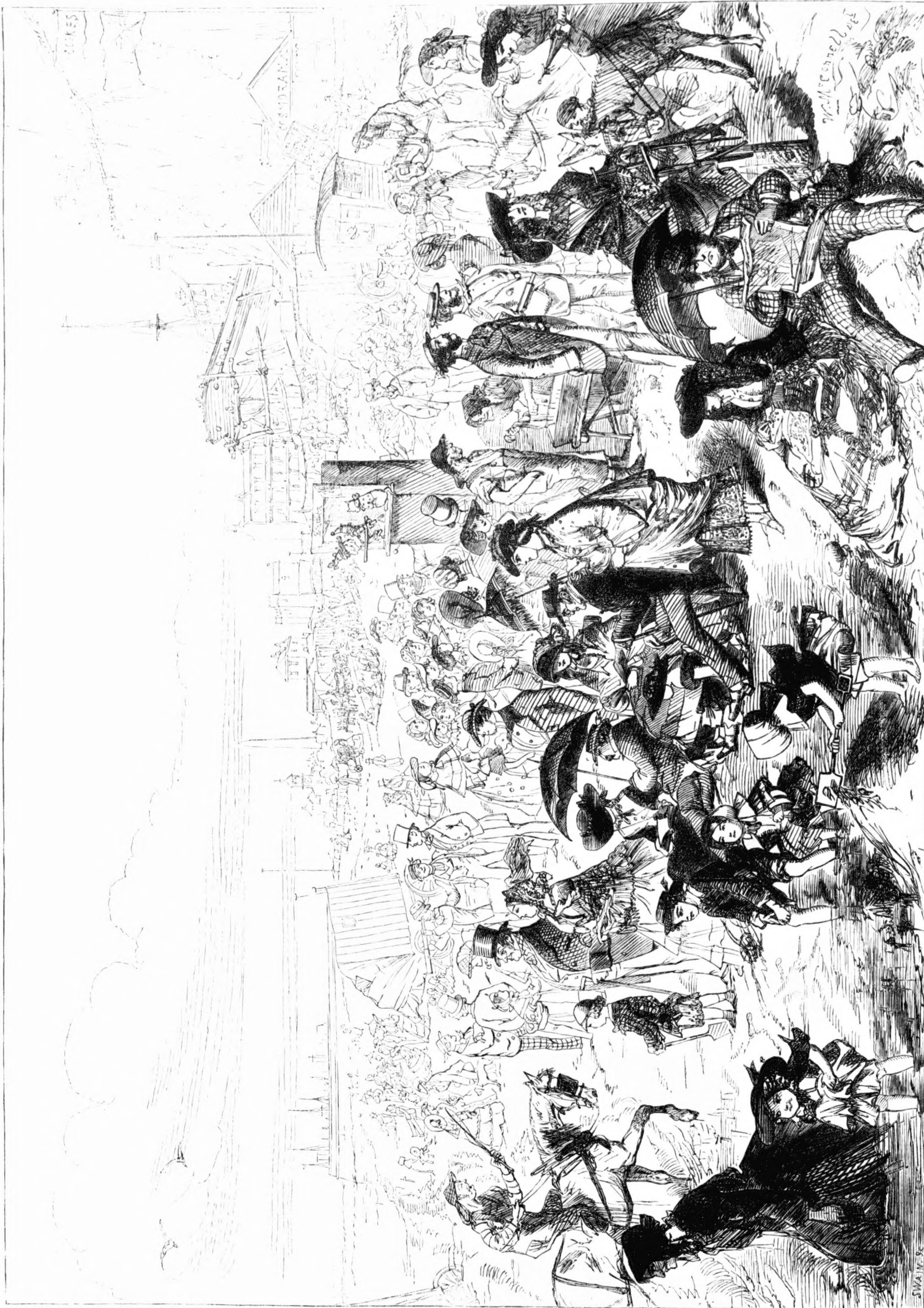
THE HOARDING which has been put up at the south-west corner of Trafalgar Square, marks the allotted site for a statue in bronze of the late General Sir Charles Napier, the cost of which has been raised by private subscription.

THE 6th DRAGOON GUARDS (CARABINIERS), have embarked from Gravesend for Calcutta. The regiment arrived from the Crimea about three months since. The 12th Lancers is also destined for India.

ON THE LATE BURNING of the steamboat Northern Indiana, on Lake Erie, it was found that numbers of the "preservers" had been rendered useless by having been used as pincushions by lady passengers.

GENERAL KMETZ has addressed a letter to General Sir William Williams, protesting against the studied silence cast over his (the Hungarian General's) services at Kars.

A CONVICT NAMED WALKER has effected his escape by breaking out of the Convict Prison at Portsmouth.



BY THE SEASIDE, NO. I.—THE SANDS AT RAMSGATE.



THE LADY WHO WAS FOND OF EXERCISE, AND THE DONKEY THAT WASN'T



SIGNORS ANTONIO BENVENUTI AND JOHN PRUDENTIE, OF THE ITALIAN MUSICAL BAND.

AT THE SEA-SIDE.

RAMSGATE.

When the weather gets so hot that soda-water bottles are dangerous as powder-flasks, and go off like pistols; when flowers die as soon as they are plucked, and butchers' shops smell unpleasantly; when Simpson ices his bitter ale, and pine apple is at a ha'penny the slice; when your hair is always moist, and your listless arms hang at your sides like bell-pulls; when old



THE GENTLEMAN WHO PASSED THE MORNING NEAR THE LADIES' BATHING MACHINES.

gentlemen leave off flannel and sit in draughts with their waistcoats open, whilst elderly ladies pearl-powder their faces ten times a day; when the warm fingers make marks on the new novel, and dogs have disagreeable expressions and long tongues; when the "catch-em-alives" at the grocers' are dotted with dead flies thicker than the currants in a Christmas pudding; when the trees in the squares seem powdered over with Scotch snuff; when all these things are seen and take place, then mamma thinks how delightful the sea breeze must be, and suddenly discovers that the children look pale. Then she carefully points out to papa at breakfast that the baby is as white as melted butter, that little Selina has nasty black marks under her eyes; and at dinner she tenderly makes the stubborn father notice that Tom has scarcely eaten enough to fill an egg-cup, and that Johnny has emptied both water-bottles as if sickening for a fever. If the stern husband should still resist, then one day when he is at business, the doctor is sent for, and he, charming humbug, knows too well his duty not to prescribe "change of air." Then, as a further precaution, Selina is put to bed, Tom is forced to take bitter pills in orange marmalade, and Johnny made to drink wine glasses of pink stuff, until at last papa gives way before the threatened doctor's bill. Then carpets are taken up, chairs piled one on another into barricades of legs, the picture-frames



BEFORE AND AFTER BATHING.

are covered with gauze, the servants put upon board wages and at last the family, with twenty boxes, goes to the sea-side.

All London quits London: the old bricken case remains, but the works and moving figures are taken out. Russell Square sends its plate to the bankers, and leaving word that it is on the Continent, bargains for a first floor and double-bedded rooms at Ramsgate; Cadogan Place buys itself big-brimmed hats, and commences bathing at Broadstairs; and Mornington Crescent, Camden Town, and Kennington rush off to shrimp teas at Margate.

And now the sea-side towns get busy. Those virtuous, elderly spinsters, who have lived the long winter months in their deserted houses, solitary as spiders in their webs, wake up from their torpidity, and grow lively with the summer heat. They take from the linen closet the clean blinds for the bed-room windows, and the net curtains for the handsome drawing-rooms and "neat parlours;" the faded chintz sofa-coverings are washed and ironed; and, buying a bottle of furniture polish, they make their poor arms ache with rubbing up the dull tables and sideboards into a waxy lustre. The stationer sells off his stock of embossed cards, engraved with "apartments to let;" and the spirited proprietors of libraries, bazaars, and assembly rooms have their pianos tuned, and make arrangements with musicians and singers from London.



TERRIBLE CONSEQUENCES OF PUTTING YOUR HAT DOWN ON THE SANDS.



"A BEAUTIFUL CAMELLAR, AFTER LIFE, IN BARNACLE SHELLS—WARRANTED ALL SHELLS OR I'LL EAT 'EM."



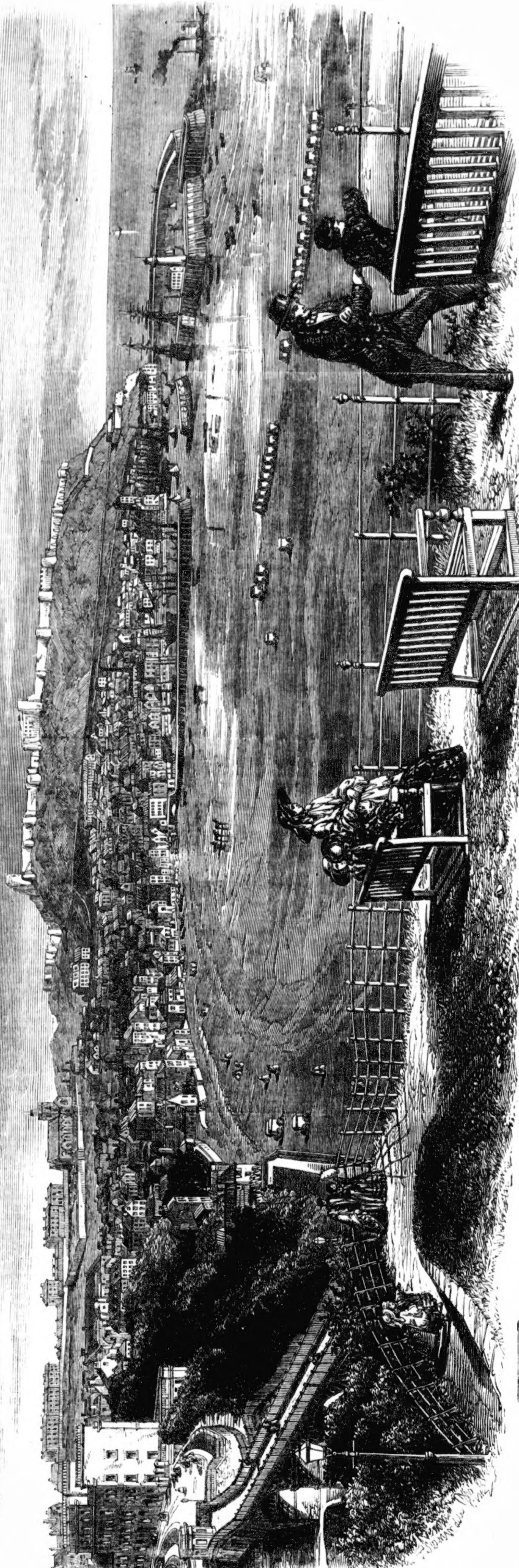
THE LITTLE BOY WHO EAT TWO QUARTS OF RED GOOSEBERRIES BEFORE BATHING.



A YOUNG GENTLEMAN TAKING AN ECONOMIC BATH.



"BOBBING AROUND."



BY THE SEASIDE, NO. II.—SCARBOROUGH BAY.—(FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY MR. J. EASTMAN OF SCARBOROUGH.)

SCARBOROUGH.
Tourist, excursion and family railroad tickets are working revolutions among the middle classes of London society, and people who formerly looked upon a trip to Margate or Ramsgate as the *ne plus ultra* of summer happiness, now scorn these noisy, rickety, honest old bathing places as affording but little change, and seek for bathing and quiet in more remote regions. Among other places which our Cockney friends have invaded in swarms, is Scarborough, until lately the exclusive resort during the summer months of all the aristocratic families in the north of England, and of the principal cotton lords of Lancashire; and the selection of Scarborough did credit to their taste, for surely John o' Groat's to the Land's End there is no lovelier watering-place in the Queen's dominions. Situated on the top of a hill, or rather of two cliffs connected by a viaduct, Scarborough can boast the purest and most salubrious air; a precipitous descent down the cliffs leads to the shore, where there is excellent bathing, while the long, velvety sands that stretch for miles along the coast form a most excellent galloping-ground, and saddle-horses of a superior description are here constantly waiting to be hired. The beautiful promenade by the sea-side is kept select by the payment of a small sum for admission. This promenade is thronged every evening by fashionably-dressed loungers, and at the end of the walk is a handsome castellated building where the band employed by the Bridge Committee is stationed, and plays every afternoon. The harbour is a favourite lounge of the students of the picturesque; in its immediate neighbourhood are

many quaint old buildings, while there are always three or four French fishing-boats at anchor, the red night-capped occupants of which are as volatile and excitable as most of their compatriots; the streets in the town are spacious and well-paved, and the houses generally have a handsome appearance; there are excellent news and assembly rooms, public libraries, bathing establishments, and a sea-bathing infirmary; the theatre is exceedingly pretty, and admirably decorated by Mr. William Beverley, the celebrated scene-painter, whose brother, Mr. Samuel Roxby, has the theatrical "circuit" in which Scarborough is situated. There are also two mineral springs in the town, the waters of which are very efficacious in diseases of the liver, &c. The museum, which is justly regarded by the inhabitants as one of their chief lions, has a valuable collection of geological and natural specimens. Scarborough is essentially a "fashionable" watering-place, where all dress and behaviour must be as much "the mode" as at Brighton. Shooting-jackets and wide-awakes in the afternoon are gazed at by the "swell" promenaders, and he who simply travels for health and quiet, must travel further to Filey, before he finds the rest he is in quest of.

A few words respecting the origin, history, and position of a place so fashionable as Scarborough, will, we believe, form a fitting conclusion for our article.
In the North Riding of Yorkshire, and on the south side of a headland extending into the German Ocean, the Romans are supposed, when in possession of Britain to have had one of their stations and this being

converted into a regular town in the days when the Anglo-Saxon race gave kings and nobles to our island, received the name, which signifies a fortified rock. King Stephen, during his troublous reign, allowed William le Gros, Earl of Albemarle, to erect on this spot one of those castles which the proud and martial monarch afterwards found so inconvenient; and Henry II. granted to the burgesses and inhabitants of Scarborough a charter and dues on merchant ships and fishing vessels, to enable them to construct a new port of timber and stone. The town was soon surrounded, for its defence, with a moat, strong walls, and an earthen mound; and as time passed on, the castle, which before the application of artillery, must have been almost impregnable, became the scene of an event, not without a good deal of interest in an historical point of view. Within its walls Fiers Gaveston took refuge when on the eve of his tragical fate; and, pressed by those barons whom the weakness of the second Edward and the insolence of his favourite had exasperated, and being obliged to surrender for want of supplies, he was seized and beheaded.

At another period, 1536, Robert Aske, the leader of the Pilgrims of Grace, made an attempt on the castle of Scarborough, but was unsuccessful in taking it. At the time of Wyatt's rebellion, 1553, it was taken by a son of Lord Stafford, but three days later he found the place wrenched from his grasp by the Earl of Westmoreland, and had the misfortune, with two of the leaders of being executed for high treason. During the great civil struggle between the House of Stuart and the Parliament of England, the castle had to undergo two sieges by the Parliamentary forces

and on one of these occasions held out for a whole year; so the victors, thinking the place might again be troublesome, ordered it to be dismantled. When, however, the insurrection of 1745 took place under Prince Charles Edward, the castle underwent a temporary repair; and, when the danger was over, barracks were built to accommodate a hundred and twenty soldiers.

The town of Scarborough, which is well built and handsome, has a striking appearance as its streets meet the eye, rising from the sea towards the ruined castle on an abrupt cliff. The castle hill is more than 300 feet above the level of the sea. The keep of the castle is a square tower about a hundred feet high. From Oliver's Mount, about a mile distant, is obtained an extensive view of the beautiful and picturesque scenery of the vicinity.

FIVE THOUSAND TONS OF ROCK were removed at one blast last week, at the Iron Rocks, South Shields. The stone will be used for the core of the south pier.

A TRUE SOLDIER'S WIFE.—Mrs. Wilding, wife of a corporal of the Royal Artillery, was one of the three women who were allowed to land with the troops at Old Fort, in the Crimea. She was present with her husband at the battle of the Alma, marched by his side across the country to Balaklava, and was present at the battle of Balaklava, where she took a horse from a Russian officer. During her residence in the camp she earned by washing an average amount of 30s. per diem, and saved a considerable sum. Her invariable companion during the war was an excellent revolver. Corporal Wilding, with his brave wife, left Woolwich for Weedon barracks last week.

THE MEETING OF THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION AT CHELTENHAM.

WE have this week a few words to say respecting various places of interest connected with the Cheltenham meeting, which we were precluded, through want of space, from touching upon in our last number; and, first of all, we will speak of

THE PICTURE GALLERY AT THIRLESTAIN HOUSE.

After passing through the gate, and walking round the handsome edifice among some very beautiful pieces of Grecian sculpture, we ascended the steps under the portico, and rang the bell; the door was opened by the footman, our hat was taken from us, and we were turned loose (as it were) into the gallery. It is so large, contains so many pictures, and has so many nice quiet side-rooms with little gems in them, that if it were not for a concealed organ that seems continually compromising itself by running into profane melody, it would be just the place for an afternoon's enjoyment; and yet it was a kind of artistic trap after all, for though the gentleman in attendance (we are not certain whether he was a butler or a curator), was very candid respecting most of the "copies," still as they were all marked as if they were originals, it involved an amount of individual judgment and taste, which everybody does not possess, and we were glad to find that a few gentlemen who had begun to doubt the authenticity of some Raphaels, Rubens, and Titians, had fallen back upon the delicate manipulation of the early masters, as less likely to be forgeries. For ourselves we were a long time coming to the pictures: the whole suite of rooms was so beautifully arrayed. There was no bareness nor want of light; if a picture was put out of the way, you were sure to coincide in the justice of the punishment, and if some little unobtrusive canvas just hung at the height of your nose, it would most



GEORGE RENNIE, F.R.S.

likely prove worthy of a careful perusal; then the small rooms at the side were such sweet little places to loiter and idle in! There was one about the middle of the suite, which contained a curious old portrait picture by Francis Porbus, 818; it is said to be the Court of Henry IV. of France, and is simply a collection of oil miniatures: there is Henry IV., as ugly as can be, with his dark French eyebrows right up to the roots of his hair, there is his Minister, the Rat—mind, I am not certain whether it is his Minister, but he looks it, and he looks, moreover, like a Parisian rat.

There is a good picture of the "Earl of Surrey," and the portrait of "Pope Paul the Third," by Titian, is very fine indeed. We were going to say that a Virgin and Child, by Raphael, reminded us of Hunt, till we heard it was a copy, and we did not find much similarity after that.

There are two wonderfully marked heads, by Vandyck; and a curious portrait of Charles the Bold Duke of Burgundy, by Roger of Bruges, an artist of the fifteenth century, which is so like a London prize-fighter, that it startles you at first. Daniel Maclise's "Strongbow and Eva," which was exhibited at the Academy in 1854, is just as clean as ever. The wild Irish have just stepped from their rose-water baths—the dead and wounded have all bled inwardly, and—it's a very clever picture, for all that. There is another Maclise which we never saw before, and were glad to see at last, "Robin Hood in Sherwood Forest," opposite to the "Strongbow and Eva" (which, by-the-way, Maclise is about to paint in fresco for the Houses of Parliament). "The Wish," by Van Holst, —a young woman shuffling a pack of cards, is very dreamy, and indefinite, and fascinating.

There is a wonderful Danby, which we looked upon as a glorious sunset,

until we heard that it was called "Wood Nymphs Chanting a Hymn to the Rising Sun."

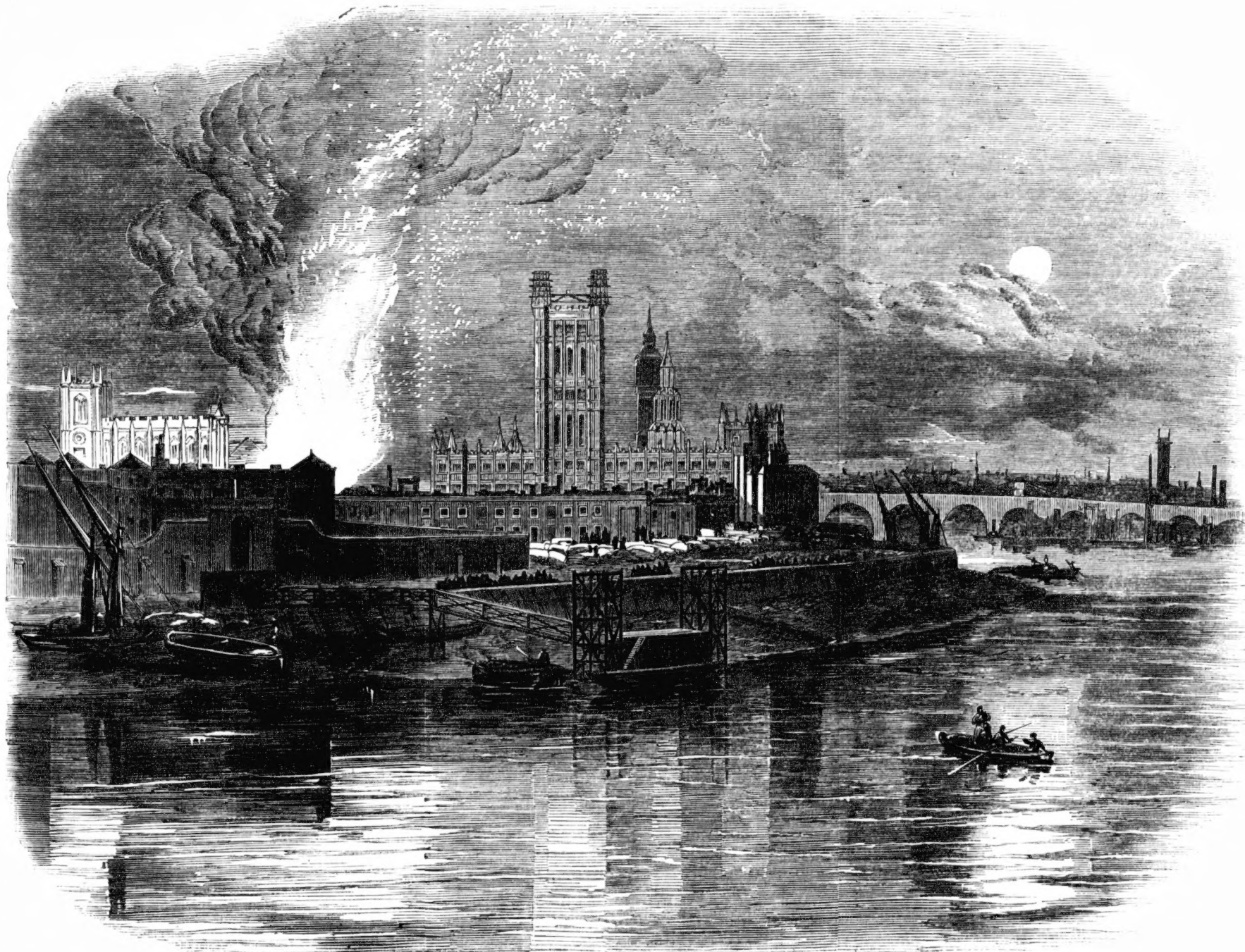
Lauder's "Christ walking on the Waters," we thought fine in parts, especially the transparency of the water; but the picture which we came upon last, as if by chance, and which we lingered over for a long while, was a Boy's Head, by Quentin Matsys—a boy of sixteen or more, rather sullen, but very intelligent.

GEOLOGICAL MUSEUM.

Nearly half-way up the "promenade" at Cheltenham there is a portico, which is said to be after the model of the Temple of Theseus, and in which the inhabitants of Cheltenham, who are too idle to walk about, come and read the "Times." It was at this "Literary and Philosophical Institution," which, strange to say, is twenty years old, that they formed what they styled a Geological Museum. It was an oblong square room, with three rows of double cases stretching the entire length of it, and one single one against the wall. The first thing that you noticed upon entering the room was the new varnish, and the next was an old gallery like an orchestra to a ball-room. On this an attempt had been made to do some classical paper-hanging, which however failed, from the fact of the Greeks preferring the artist to the process of block-printing. There were two skylights with green blinds like a weak-eyed geologist with coloured spectacles. Of course, there were diagrams on the wall, and very good ones, only that, like the museum itself, they illustrated merely the geology of the immediate neighbourhood. It seemed, however, a very good practical museum, was not extensive enough to be involved in its classification, and, from its local interest, Dr. Wright and Mr. Pierson may fairly take to themselves the credit of having afforded the inhabitants of Cheltenham the opportunity of understanding the geology of their own county.



JAMES MACGIBBON, ESQ.



THE FIRE AT BROADWOODS' PIANOFORTE MANUFACTORY, AS SEEN FROM VAUXHALL BRIDGE.

BATHURST HOUSE AND CIRENCESTER CHURCH.

During the excursion to Cirencester, several of the members of the Association paid a visit to the mansion of Lord Bathurst and to Cirencester Church. Our correspondent, who happened to be of the party, thus describes the visit in question—

On our way to the front of his Lordship's house, we passed over the lawn, which has a curious formal effect, as it is a geometrical circle, and the tall trees that surround it are cut all exactly the same height.

They call it "Italian;" it may be anything, but it can't be beautiful, and has no relief to its ugliness but the top of the steeple of Cirencester church, which just shows over the gateway. We walked into the house, and the first thing we saw was a beautiful portrait of the Duke of Wellington by Sir Thomas Lawrence, the best portrait we have ever seen. We then went into the dining-room, and enjoyed the beautiful little collection of old portraits and pictures there, but could not help thinking that, after all, Wardour Street had produced some good imitations in its time.

Whether our readers will believe us or not, we do not know, but it is none the less a fact that the most distinguished naturalist present, upon being shown the great seal of the Commonwealth, which is in the possession of Lord Bathurst, and upon its being shown to him simply as the "great seal," did then and there deliberately and solemnly ask whether it was the one that died last week in the Zoological Gardens.

The visit to the lower rooms of Lord Bathurst's house was worth remembering. The villainous ancestor with the saturnine expression by Sir Godfrey Kneller, the disreputable-looking ancestress by Sir Peter Lely, well repaid the trouble bestowed upon the visit, which did not detain us long, as the church—celebrated of churches—was still to be examined.

"Well," said Professor Bell, as we arrived under the porch, "this is very good; but it all belongs to the perpendicular period."

"Yes," replied Vicar Powell, who did the showman remarkably well; "but the erection of this church extends over a hundred and fifty years, and the variety of structure in it is truly remarkable; indeed, not only is that the case, but restorations have been made since that time, of which we have several instances in this porch. There, to your right, is a door rebuilt during the reign of Queen Anne; and this, painted black, was made in the reign of King Charles I.—you will observe, Gentlemen, in the celebrated ship-money year. Here you have a curious thing (putting his hand upon a stone slab) that has puzzled a great many archaeologists; for you will observe, Gentlemen, that it is of a period of architecture entirely different from the wall into which it has been introduced. I have formed my own conclusions on this subject, and from what I have learnt, this (slapping it) is a *dole table*. Of course you know that a *dole table* is a slab of stone upon which the 'doles,' or charities, were dispensed. On this table was given what was called 'Mariner's dole.' A man named Mariner left a sum of money to the poor, on condition that each person after receiving it should run the gauntlet between two rows of townsmen with knotted handkerchiefs."

We must here interrupt the Rev. Vicar to picture to you two or three solitary antiquarians prowling about in nooks and corners, now down on their knees, then up on the seats, or trying to get their heads into a "squin."

"You will observe, gentlemen, as we come into the body of the church, the similarity there is between this and the churches on the Continent. Outside is an instance of the peculiarities of the Gothic style, a pair of flying buttresses, which, although harmonising with the rest, were not included in the original design; when built, they found some weakness there, and, being men of such wonderful resources, made no more ado but introduced them. Observe the stained glass. It has been much damaged, but it is a fine show. My believe is, that every window in this church was originally stained glass."

"And now, if you please, we will proceed to the chapel at the further end."

As we were going along, we heard Nasmyth (he of the steam hammer) say to a lady who was with him—

"It required all the power of the prophets to poot et doon, an' et's net poot doon yet, mam."

We hardly knew the meaning of what we heard till we arrived at the chapel, when he burst out, to the intense horror of the Very Rev. —, about the nimbus round the saints' heads on the stained glass, for the purpose of identifying it with the sun worship, referring to the rays which were always added to the circle before the time of Pietro Perugino, glancing at the attitude of adoration in the Egyptian pictures (the two hands held before the face to shield it from the light), and in course of time, as far as one could see, to eventually identify the Christian religion, Catholic and Protestant, with that of Zoroaster. "Fur-r, ye see, it's net got oot yet; they ha' it in the two wax kendles burnt upon the altar to the present day."

The next marvels were the "squints" or apertures in the pillars and walls, so made at an angle that it was only by a great deal of squeezing that you were enabled to see through them. Professor Bell inclines to the belief that they were for lepers, who were not allowed to come into the body of the church, and some others believe that they were for squinting people (whence their name), who were under a similar prohibition. In whatever part of the church they may be, they are so placed that any person looking through them would see the high altar. So true is this, that in one instance it was discovered that an alteration had been made in the church by the series of straight lines from the various "squints" converging to a point about ten feet outside the church wall, the spot where the high altar must have been.

Our Rev. Showman then directed our attention to some carvings in oak, very bold and fine, which had lost their colour, and become almost white. And next to some engravings of curious caricature carvings which, in the shape of what we think are called "Gurgoyles," represent the "Whitson Ale."

The "Whitson Ale" is simply a representation, by means of a series of grotesques, of the drunkenness that prevailed at Whitsonide, when ale was given away to the husbandmen.

They are very wonderful in their quaintness and grotesque feeling; they strike one as a kind of "Stone Comic Publication," the only way in which at that time the superabundant humour of the English could vent itself.

The Fool. The Fat Man with a kind of bagpipes, another with a hurdy-gurdy, and a fourth, with what in the present day would be a banjo. What a book might be written on the ancient "Stone Punch!"

There is one, by the way, that is just as if Death were dropping the last drop of Whitson ale out of the glass into the gravedigger's spade. The spade is there and Death, but the glass is the funeral bell, and the round drop the tongue of it.

The Cat—the Dog—the Monkey—the Woman. Not all of them decent, especially the Monk and the Devil; but all very funny, and quite equal to Doyle.

There's that tower of the church again. It comes out everywhere, and we are in the grounds of Mr. Masters. It is very fine. We see a great many specimens of the Dagham Down stone, curiously perforated with large, deep round holes, as it is found on the surface, surrounded by some wonderful capitals of old Roman pillars, which Mr. Nasmyth referred to as something similar to our Nelson Column, in Trafalgar Square. Away we went, leaving a tall, thin, naturalist in the rain, to gather land shells in the round caverns of the Dagham Down stone.

We rambled on, looking at the flowers, which were very lovely. "Do ye know," said Nasmyth, "I've heard of a sooperstection about flowers, that if you look kindly at them, they'll bloom the better, and I always like to encourage sooperstections that lead to kindly feelin'!"

It was at this moment that the British Association there assembled, discovered that more than half of their members had gone, and on making inquiries of each other, it turned out that we had followed Mr. Nasmyth until we had lost ourselves.

Among other objects of interest in the neighbourhood of Cheltenham which the members of the Association thought worthy of a visit, one of the most important was certainly

TEWKESBURY ABBEY.

The foundation of this venerable pile dates from the first fifteen years of the eighth century. Two brothers, Odo and Dodo, who flourished under the kings of Mercia, endowed the abbey with much landed pro-

perty, which continued to form part of the abbey revenue until the Dissolution. The Institution gradually extended its authority, temporal and spiritual, and acquired a reputation for so much sanctity, that to obtain a grave in its sacred enclosure, became an object of devout competition among the pious, and brought no little treasure to the prior's exchequer.

During the reign of William Rufus, Robert Fitzhamon rebuilt the church with all its appendages, and endowed it with many large possessions. This was an act of public atonement for the destruction of the Church of Bayeux in Normandy, which King Henry had burnt in order to liberate him from prison. After this rebuilding, it became so much more attractive to pilgrims and devotees that Fitzhamon changed the Abbey of Cranbourne, to which Tewkesbury was subject, into a priory, and made it subject from that time forward to the "Black Friars" of Tewkesbury, so called from the black habits worn by monks of the Benedictine order.

The body of Fitzhamon after his death at the siege of Falaise in Normandy, was brought home and deposited with great solemnity in the chapter house of the abbey, a part of which still remains.

It was Earl Robert of Gloucester, a descendant of Fitzhamon, who every Sunday in the year had the Abbot of Tewkesbury and twelve of the monks to dine with him.

During the many ages of prosperity which intervened between the period of its foundation down to that of its dissolution, the abbey of Tewkesbury is a name of frequent recurrence in history. The abbots were generally men of learning, moderation and piety—possessing an influence in public affairs, which extended far beyond the jurisdiction of their convent.

The abbey cloisters and offices have almost disappeared. The church contains a rich and varied series of monuments, all of excellent workmanship, and several of singular design. It is also enriched with a series of genealogical portraits in stained glass of the De Clares, the Despencers, and other benefactors of the abbey.

The abbey church of Tewkesbury presents in design and construction the characteristic features of its class and era. Built in the usual form of a cross, the central tower is erected over the great arcade, which divides the transepts and separates the nave from the choir.

But the gateway is the only feature which conveys to the spectator any idea of what the Abbey itself must have been in the days of its prosperity. It is a structure of great solidity, finely proportioned, crowned with embattled walls, and admired by archaeologists for the beauty of its Norman arch.

We give also three additional portraits of distinguished scientific men, who rendered themselves conspicuous at the recent Cheltenham gathering, and to these we append a few notes referring to their several careers in the paths of science.

GEORGE RENNIE, F.R.S.

He is the son of John Rennie, the architect of London and Blackfriars bridges and of the East and West India Docks, and he is also the brother of Sir John Rennie, his partner in the engineering firm of Holland Street, Blackfriars, of which he is the head. His attention during a laborious life has been principally directed to the manufacture of marine engines—in fact, what may be called mechanical engineering has occupied the major part of his time.

He has contributed papers to the "Transactions" of different learned societies (including the Royal Society, the British Association, and the Institute of Civil Engineers) on hydraulics, &c. The principal work, however, by which he is known, is "Buchanan's Practical Essays on Mill-work and Machinery," which he has edited and greatly extended.

EDWIN LANKESTER, M.D., F.R.S.

As a medical man of considerable eminence, officer of health to St. James's parish, and fellow of the Royal Society, Dr. Lankester has earned a reputation more general in its character than that of most scientific men; but it will be better understood how widely extended his influence must be when it is known that he is one of the most admirable lecturers on physiology and botany we have, his lectures deservedly ranking high, not alone in consequence of their truthfulness, but also from the original matter with which long study and careful experiment has enabled him to endow them.

JAMES NASMYTH, F.R.S.

If names were still descriptive of the person whom they are supposed to represent, the subject of our sketch would certainly be called "Nasmyth of the Steam Hammer;" for, whatever other merits may belong to this great inventor, it is by that marvellous piece of machinery he is so widely and so well known.

Indeed, there are but few out of those favoured ones who watched him cracking nuts under the hammer, at his manufactory, Patricroft, near Manchester, who would believe in him as anything else. Not that they are in the right; for a more wonderful example of universal knowledge is hardly to be found in the present day. A passion for art—a deep poetic feeling—are among his characteristics. To his mechanical acquirements, and his original trade of tool-maker (in which, by the way, he is not equalled even by Whitworth), he has added astronomy, archaeology, and most sciences requiring great depth of thought.

He is perhaps of a more impulsive temperament than is recognised as the true scientific standard; but this perhaps may (in common with his love of art) be traceable to his close relationship to Nasmyth the celebrated landscape painter.

THE FIRE AT BROADWOOD'S PIANOFORTE MANUFACTORY.

ONE evening last week the inhabitants of the metropolis—many of them, doubtless, with a thrill of horror—observed that its western districts were illuminated for several hours; and everybody exclaimed, "Another fire, and a tremendous one, too!" As usual, there was a considerable rush; and myriads of eyes were strained to ascertain the precise spot whence the glare proceeded. Ere long it became known that there was a raging fire, which must necessarily involve the destruction of an immense quantity of valuable property.

Upon a plot of ground at Westminster, including about a couple of acres, and running from the Horseferry Road to Holywell Street, have stood for the last thirty years the principal manufacturing workshops of Messrs. Broadwood, so widely known as constructors of every description of first-class pianofortes. The premises consisted of five distinct ranges of buildings, three storeys high, running parallel with each other, and embracing shops for every department of the manufacture.

The precautions taken against fire in this establishment have been such as to render a conflagration almost impossible. The specially hazardous character of the business is such that at this season of the year it is not supposed that any person has a light on the premises, and the stoves for warming the gluepots, &c., are cased in iron, and under the special control of the officials of the offices with whom Messrs. Broadwood have insured for twenty-seven years without having had a chimney on fire. Moreover, it appears that one of the foremen has always been in the habit of going round to see that all is safe after the workmen have left. Well, at six o'clock on the evening referred to, some 420 workmen left the various shops in the establishment, and, according to custom, one of the foremen inspected the whole premises after their departure, for the purpose of ascertaining that everything was safe, and the stove fires properly extinguished. Nevertheless, in little more than half-an-hour after the workmen had left, smoke was observed issuing from the upper floor of the central range of buildings, immediately beneath the clock tower; and an alarm was instantly given to one of the principal managers. This individual, whose residence adjoins the premises, immediately hastened thither, and, at a glance, perceived that the fire had made considerable progress, and was rapidly increasing its ravages. No time was lost. Such assistance as could be got together was hastily assembled, and an engine which has always been kept upon the premises was forthwith at work. The Brigade engine from the station in the Horseferry Road, only 100 yards from the factory, followed very quickly, and then came the parish engines of St. John's and St. Margaret's.

Soon after the alarm was given, the chief superintendent of the metropolitan police arrived on the spot with a strong body of officers, whom

he stationed at the various outlets for the purpose of keeping off the mob, taking care to allow the entry of a sufficient number of able-bodied men to work the engines. Moreover, in the absence of Mr. Broadwood, who was out of town, he endeavoured to save some of the non-valuable property, but the fire was too swift to admit of the extraction of more than a few thousand feet of mahogany, which were thrown down off the roofs of the workshops and dragged out into the Horseferry Road. Into the interior of the shops very shortly after the outbreak it was impossible to enter, and it was lamentable to observe the workmen looking on—their eyes suffused with tears—at the destruction of their valuable tools and materials, without the smallest chance of recovering them. The tools of a single first-class workman may be estimated at £70.

For a while the aspect of affairs continued most alarming. As is too frequently the case, there was at first a scarcity of water, and the most strenuous exertions of all present failed to make the slightest impression upon the flames, which spread rapidly from floor to floor, and before seven o'clock had wrapped in one burning mass the whole range in which the fire had originated. The peculiar construction of the workshops—built to obtain the best possible light, and consisting of distinct floors several hundred feet long, without a break of any kind—rendered them an easy prey to the flames, and in less than an hour the fire had obtained so terrible a mastery that very little hope existed of saving any part of the establishment. The intense heat of the central building very soon ignited the adjoining ranges on either side, though from twenty to thirty feet of space intervened; and before eight o'clock a body of flame of almost unexampled extent rose high into the air, setting out in bold relief the fine architectural outlines of the new Houses of Parliament and Westminster Abbey, and attracting to the bridges and other elevated points of view myriads of curious spectators. About this time, so menacing looked the fire, that the authorities of the Chartered Gas Company, whose metres are exactly opposite, deemed it prudent to discharge the gas by a main in connection with their other gasometer in Spitalfields.

At length four out of the five ranges of shops having been ignited, the foreman of the Fire Brigade determined by a desperate effort to cut off the communication with the fifth range. Accordingly a large number of men with pickaxes and other implements—the wind favouring this operation—having been employed, the flames were prevented extending to the northernmost shops, which, beyond injury from severe scorching and water, have not suffered.

The fire was got under about ten o'clock, but the engines continued to pour immense volumes of water upon the ruins throughout the whole night.

When morning came, the manufactory appeared a total wreck: 1,000 pianofortes in various stages of manufacture, had been utterly lost; and the value of the woods and other materials destroyed was estimated at a sum almost fabulous. Notwithstanding the heavy loss he has sustained, Mr. Broadwood, on Saturday last, in sympathising with those employed in his establishment, very liberally presented each of his workmen with a sovereign, and every boy with ten shillings. A committee has been formed for the purpose of raising a fund to remunerate the workmen for their great losses.

Our engraving represents the conflagration as it appeared from Vauxhall Bridge.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRES.—On Sunday morning a fire broke out on the premises of Mr. J. Golding, Nos. 3 and 4, Church Street, Shoreditch. The inmates, three in number, were rescued by one of the Royal Society's fire escapes, but both of the houses with their contents were destroyed. Mr. Golding was insured for £2,100. A very serious fire also occurred at a late hour on Saturday night on the premises of Mr. Warren, importer of fancy toys and articles of vertu, in Bishopsgate Street Without. The building, which was several floors in height, and of considerable depth, and well stored with goods of an expensive kind, was, with its contents, all but consumed. The loss was very considerable. Mr. Warren was insured.

SUICIDE OF A SCENE PAINTER.—Abraham Seawary, a scene painter, residing at No. 7, Little Turrells, Lincoln's Inn Fields, committed suicide by hanging himself in his room last week. He was four days asunder before the discovery. On the table was a memorandum addressed to his landlady, directing her to pay herself the sum of £s. 6d. for one week's rent, and £2 4s. to be applied towards his funeral. The money was also placed upon the table. It is supposed that disappointment at not having £70 left him by a woman with whom he formerly exhibited, but whom he discarded and sent into the hospital when she became ill, was the cause of the suicide. He did not know of the money at the time of the woman's illness.

MILITARY SWINDLERS.—The practice has become so prevalent of late, amongst several of the young officers at the garrison, save the "Hampshire Independent," of giving fictitious bills to their tradesmen, that the commandant (Colonel Jeffries) has found it necessary to caution the public through our columns never to take any of them in exchange for goods or cash without first ascertaining from their bankers or army agents whether there were any balance in hand to meet them. The complaints to the Colonel of this practice were of almost daily occurrence, several tradesmen in Newport, Port-mouth, and Southampton having been fleeced within these few weeks past of cash and goods to a very considerable amount, on the strength of their names or titles. And the delinquents, not content with obtaining the goods for the mere trouble of sending for them, have in many instances given bills on their agents for much larger amounts, drawing the overplus in hard sovereigns!

LAW AND CRIME.

MR. BARON BRAMWELL laid down the law as to breach of promise of marriage excellently on Wednesday week. After describing a mutual engagement, he put the case of a man who for some reason finds that the match will not probably be a happy one, and accordingly proposes that it shall be broken off. The lady claims damages for his having broken the promise. "No," says the man of Baron Bramwell, "I do not pay you for breaking my promise, but for having made it. How much must I pay you for that? What damages must I give you because I made the agreement which I have done?" This is the true way of looking at the question. The injury done to the lady is not that she is suddenly prevented from marrying one whose affection has cooled even before matrimony, because she has in fact thereby escaped no small misery, but because she has been kept "engaged," and thereby prevented seeking a more eligible partner during a portion of the period (unfortunately not a protracted one) in which a woman may hope to attract and charm marriageable men. Acting under the direction of Mr. Baron Bramwell on this principle, the jury at Liverpool gave a verdict for the plaintiff in the case of Nattrass v. Yeoman, with £50 damages. It may seem odd to recall attention to the fact, but it is important to remember that this case was tried on a Wednesday.

The case of *Scholes v. Brierly* was also tried before Mr. Baron Bramwell at the same assize. The defendant, the Learned Judge told the jury, had no doubt made a contract. "The damages that ought to be recovered, to his mind, were the damages sustained. If the plaintiff had had a lucky escape, she ought to receive no damages. The defendant's conduct appeared to be of the worst description. If," concluded the Judge, "they thought the plaintiff had had 'a good riddance of bad rubbish,' they would give her small damages." So that the best defence to an action for breach of promise will henceforth be, that the defendant is a scoundrel, a drunkard, or a brute; ergo, that he has the right to trifle with the affections of a girl; keep company with her till her day has gone by, or till other men scornfully reject what in humble society would be called "his leavings;" and then fall back upon his own unfitness for a husband as sufficient excuse. And this preposterous argument is put forth by the identical Judge who, in *Nattrass v. Yeoman*, laid down the diametrically opposite rule. But this case was tried on a Friday, which is the only ground we can discover for the singular antagonism of these two judgments. There must be something after all in Friday being an unlucky day, at least with regard to Mr. Baron Bramwell's reasonings.

Perhaps a few of our readers may remember some remarks in last week's "Law and Crime," upon the injustice of the Guildford Assize. A trial which took place there on Friday last confirms those observations with singular force. A pettyfogger, who has been committed to Horse-monger Lane as a sham attorney (a class, reader, more dangerous, seemingly, and mischievous than any ordinary thief), takes a second-class ticket from Vauxhall to Wandsworth, where he alights. He sees the bailiff of the County Court trying to open the door of a first-class carriage, and our traveller, who has a case at the County Court, voluntarily turns the handle for the gentleman. When he gives up his ticket, the station-master, who

